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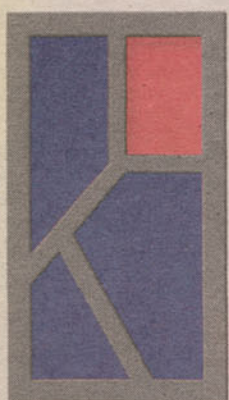
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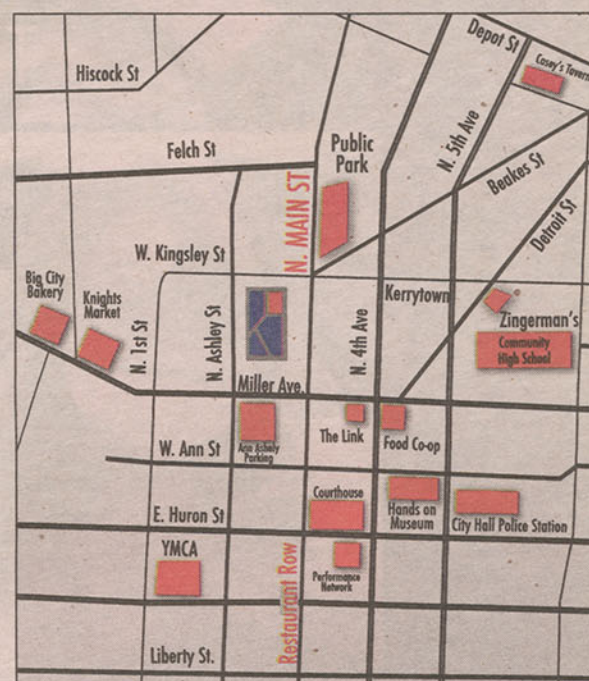
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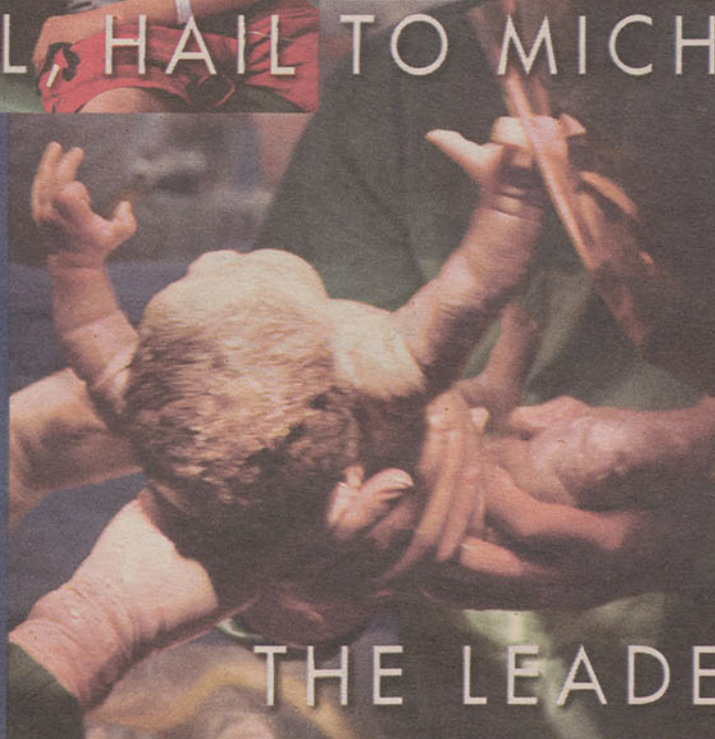
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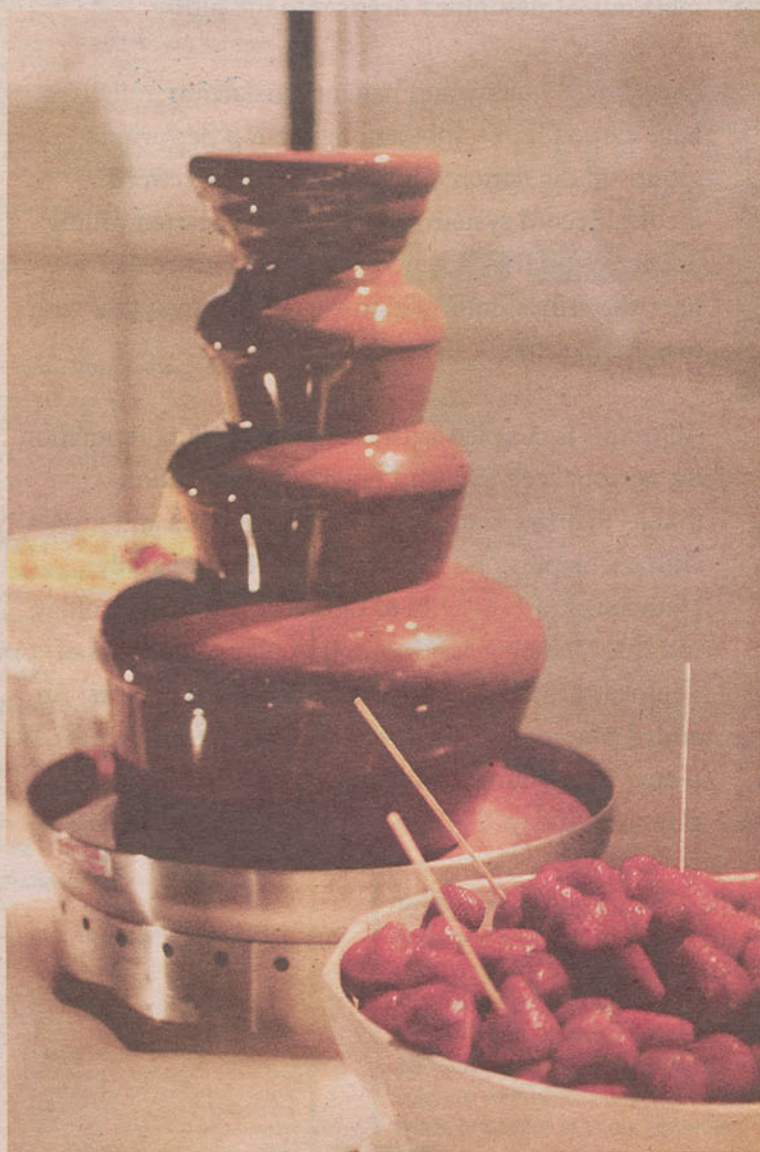
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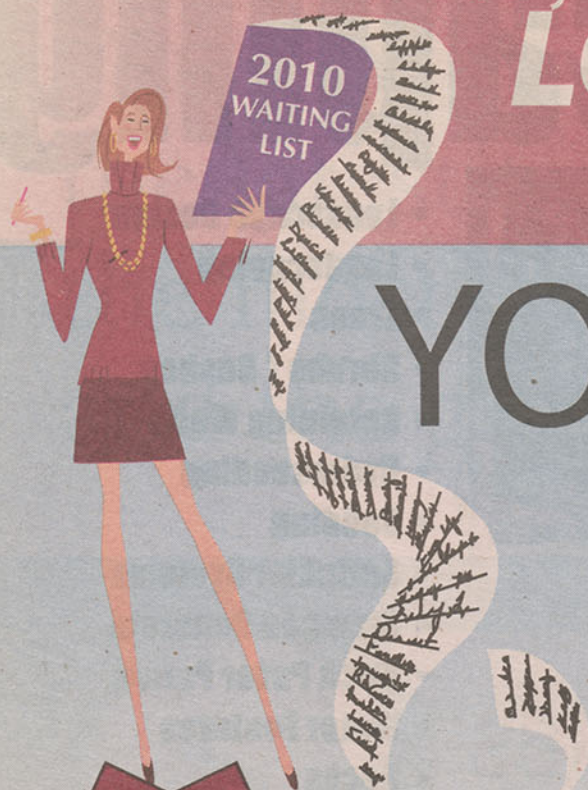
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Ann Arbor Observer

April 2007

vol. 31 • no. 8

Cover: Shaky Jake. Watercolor by Hamil Ma.



features

23 Pushed off Easy Street *Vickie Elmer*
Home foreclosures are soaring in Ann Arbor.

29 Volunteer Armies *Linda R. Benson*
From Baryshnikov to Weird Al Yankovic,
Ann Arbor's ushers do it for love.

33 Shock Pundit *James Militzer*
Conservative icon Ann Coulter got her start
at the liberal U-M Law School.

37 Waxing Moon *Sally Mitani*
Behind Ann Arbor's bikini lines.



departments

9 Up Front
*Bill Barr, Vickie Elmer,
A. J. Hogg, Laura McReynolds,
David Erik Nelson, Kyle Norris,
Peggy Page, Jan Schlain*

11 Inside Ann Arbor
*Ronald Ahrens, Vickie Elmer,
Yma Johnson, Eve Silberman,
Catherine Zudak*

16 Calls & Letters
• Modern leprosy
• Hepatitis C
• I9 Sports
• Oil pastels, not monoprints

19 Crime Map

21 Ann Arborites
Motorcycle guru Kevin Lentz
Eve Silberman

45 Restaurant Reviews
Amadeus, the Metro Cafe, and
Whole Foods
Bix Engels

51 Marketplace Changes
*Corry Berkooz, Tony
McReynolds, Sally Mitani*
Ahmo's Express • Asian
Legend • Alex Gulko
• Chipotle • and more



131 Back Page
I Spy Contest
Sally Bjork
Fake Ad Update
Jay Forstner

what's happening



59 Events
John Hinchey & Laura Bien
Daily events in Ann Arbor
during April, including reviews
of the U-M Chopin Project,
Cheryl Wheeler, Eliza Gilkyson
(left), the Ann Arbor Area
Writers Group readings, the
U-M Jazz Showcase, novelist
Jonathan Lethem, women's
group SpiritSisters, Shaw's
Candida, soprano Measha

Brueggergosman, and an
exhibition of nineteenth-century
ethnic and regional cookbooks at
the Clements Library.

108 Music at Nightspots
John Hinchey
With a review of the Cool Moose
Orchestra.

132 Events at a Glance
John Hinchey

advertising sections

67 A² City News



111 Personals, Classifieds, & Service Advertisers

117 Real Estate Guide Home Sales Map *Kevin Duke*



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"Easier and fairer": That's the goal of new rules being proposed for the Ann Arbor Farmers' Market, according to market commission chair Luis Vazquez. But the changes could take stalls



away from some longtime vendors—so tempers are sure to flare when the market commission takes up the new operating rules in April. One hot issue: whether some vendors are so closely associated they should be treated as a single entity under new market seniority rights and ownership rules—and consequently might have to give up some of their stalls. Most vendors end up with one to three stalls, but a couple have as many as five; Vazquez says some related groups have as many as a dozen. At the market, space is money—so the proposed revisions are sure to unearth rivalries between old-timers and some of the newer growers, who currently have to wait seven to nine years to get a permanent space.

Zippin' about: Recently, a postcard notified U-M students and employees about a new car. Six cars, actually. And while they'll have to share them, by the hour or by the day, they also get to share hundreds of other cars scattered among thirteen cities, three countries, and two continents.

The deal was with Zipcar, the largest car-sharing company in North America. Members pay \$30 a year and then \$8 per hour, up to \$60 per day, for any of the six Ann Arbor vehicles: two Ford Escape SUVs, two Mazda 3 sedans, and two Toyota Matrix station wagons. Daily car rentals from Hertz et al. can cost less per hour, but Zipcar members pay only for the hours they need—and gas and insurance are included. People not affiliated with the U-M can use the cars but have to pay a bigger annual fee—\$50.

It takes less than five minutes to apply on a website, and a week later, after your driving record has been vetted, a wallet-size "Zipcard" arrives. Reserve a car by phone or online, get to its current parking spot (U-M Transportation is providing dedicated spaces), and lay the Zipcard over a sensor on the windshield to unlock it. No need to worry about inadvertently heisting someone else's Escape—each has the Zipcar logo prominently displayed left, right, and rear.

So far it's not been difficult to book a vehicle. According to Brian Pawlowski, the U-M's coordinator of alternative transportation, the 150 university-affiliated members keep most of the cars booked 25 percent of the time. He said that Zipcar tries to add vehicles when use tops 40 percent per site. And students are clearly beginning to use them—a recent rental of the Escape (named "Easton"—



all the vehicles have names) demonstrated that not every user follows

the "Take it with you when you leave" rule: nestled into the console was a map to an Ypsilanti bar, and an empty Advil container.

Skyline High: If Google is on target, Ann Arbor's new Skyline High School will be the fifteenth of that name in the country when it opens in the fall of 2008. Most of the other Skylines are out west, and some offer more spectacular vistas than the Ann Arbor school-to-be: one in Longmont, Colorado, overlooks the Rocky Mountains, and another has a view of Dallas. (Like the parent-student naming committee in Ann Arbor,



the Dallas principal was inspired while viewing the city from the school's top floor.) Google identifies more Skyline Highs than Hurons and Pioneers (about half a dozen each). But a pretty view does not a happy school make. Skyline High in Oakland, California, which looks out on some lovely hills, is plagued with race-related violence: on the last day of classes in 2006, reports Wikipedia, "members of the Oakland Police Department's SWAT team were summoned to the campus to quell massive fights." Happier tidings should await the Maple Road school, whose name was selected from a pool of 500 suggestions—beating out, among others, Accord, Spectrum, and Super Nova.

Pep-Squeak's legacy: Each April the U-M's Avery and Jule Hopwood Awards Program presents tens of thousands of dollars to student poets, playwrights, essayists, and storytellers. Few of the winners, though, realize their debt to Avery Hopwood's monkey, Pep-Squeak.

Hopwood, a 1905 grad who went on to become a successful Broadway playwright, left his fortune to the school with the intent of encouraging creative work in writing. His untimely death—he was just forty-six—unraveled his tight-knit little family: Pep-Squeak was hysterical with grief at Avery's interment, and Avery's mother, Jule, survived her son by less than a year. Their beloved monkey, the final member of the family, was left with a \$10,000 trust fund—which was transferred to the Hopwood Awards upon his demise one year later. Peppy's trust is worth more than \$100,000 today. Conservatively invested, the monkey's money earns enough to fund the Hopwood Underclassman Awards.

Intergenerational art: In March, Paul Hickman and his six-year-old son, Charlie, showcased their collaborative artwork in their first gallery showing—and sold a piece for \$180 the very first night. Charlie's free-spirited drawings and paintings show obvious talent, but it certainly doesn't hurt that Paul has a B.F.A. in making art with found materials. After he



scans Charlie's originals, they work together in Photoshop, layering images, adding colors and textures, and moving graphic elements around.

Some pieces, like *The Goat*, a whimsical sketch of fifteen-month-old brother Joe ("He chews everything a lot," Charlie explains), are mostly Charlie. Others, like a pop art-influenced ode to the letter H called *The Quilt*, show more of Paul's influence. After expenses are paid—the Hickmans spent several hundred dollars getting the pieces framed—all income will go into a special bank account. "It's going to buy toys!" says Charlie. "No," his father says with a patient smile. "It's not."

Distinguished chairs: Customers of Cafe Marie were startled this summer to see a chunk of wall by the door bearing the hand-painted slogan "Progress begins when we break down our walls. WITNESS THE TRANSFORMATION." Had this breakfast-lunch spot gone political? No, the



restaurant, which opened on Plymouth Road in 1993, back when teal was de rigueur, had begun remodeling. Along with a new brick patio, a perked-up color scheme, free WiFi, and eventually a new entrance area featuring coffee to go, the restaurant will soon have twenty-two new tables and chairs endowed by its customers—at \$75 for a table and \$30 for a chair. Owner Jeanne Loveland said a customer suggested the unusual idea. Though sponsorship conveys no special privileges, it does include a plaque with your name on it. As of February, donors had claimed all of the tables, leaving only chairs. Helen Miller says she and her husband Ed have eaten at Cafe Marie at 9 a.m. every Sunday for "years and years" with their five children, family friends, and business contacts. They endowed a large table for themselves and smaller ones for their married daughter Kirsten and for their engaged daughter Candace—whose bridal shower will be held this summer at Cafe Marie.

Wearing wealth: Mink coats don't show up at Ann Arbor charity auctions. Be it Greenhills or Emerson or Steiner, no one would dare bid on it—at least no one from Ann Arbor. A trip to Tuscany? Sure. A condo in Charlevoix? Not a problem. But a mink? No way! It's more than an animal rights issue. It's about how Ann Arborites "wear" their wealth.

At the Greenhills auction on St. Patrick's Day, the clothing auctioned off included Birkenstock shoes, a \$50 gift certificate at Bivouac, and one evening stole—made of silk and rayon. So what's an Ann Arbor woman to do if she loves fur but doesn't want to run the risk of public condemnation? One found the perfect solution. "My wife got a reversible mink coat,"

says a local businessman. "When she's in Ann Arbor, she wears the leather side out, and when she's in Chicago, she wears the mink side out."



State of schlock: Hollywood may have the Academy Awards, but Ann Arbor has the Fifteenth Annual Smithee Awards, celebrating bad movies. While the best and brightest clamor for an Oscar, celebrities never show up to accept a Smithee. In fact, the sponsors like to brag that Walter Koenig (Chekov in the original *Star Trek* TV series), when cornered at a gaming convention and handed an honorary Smithee, simply looked at it and said, "But I don't want it."

The Smithees "honor" Allen Smithee—the pseudonym used when a movie's so bad even the director doesn't want his name on it. The U-M students who launched it have long since graduated and moved on to grown-up lives—but as the "Smith-ka-teers" they will return to campus on Saturday, April 21 (see Events), to mock the worst in movies in a raucous, humor-laden, don't-bring-the-kids ceremony. Along with the obvious "Worst Acting" and "Worst Picture," the nineteen awards include "Most Ludicrous Premise" and "Let's Up the Rating to R." The audi-



ence votes for the "winners" after viewing five clips in each category.

Attendance has risen consistently, according to Matthew and Jeanette Quirk, the Ann Arbor event host and "ballot nin-jette," respectively. And it's taken on a distinctive Ann Arbor flavor over the years. Matthew says the ceremony has slowly turned into "a bad-movie-clips, weird-food potluck"—including beverages "in colors not normally found in nature."

What does it cost?

\$128,000—tuition for four years for an out-of-state student at the U-M Medical School

\$82,000—four years' tuition for an in-state student

\$75—tuition for a six-session "mini med school" in April (medical credentials not included)

\$400—five days' rental of a seventeenth-century-style organ (with wooden pipework) from the Academy of Early Music

\$3.95 million—asking price for Bill Ford's seventeen-acre estate on the Huron River, through Savarino Properties

\$16 million—asking price for a 120-acre parcel on Dixboro Road, described as "perfect for developing into multiple equestrian estates," through Kathy Toth at Real Estate One

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Disaster on West Stadium

A local credit union goes from boom to bust.

Last April, Huron River Area Credit Union officials bragged about the organization's "strong financial foundation during the continuing economic turmoil of the Michigan economy." The annual report of the 39,000-member group bragged about its "robust loan growth" and the generous rates it paid on certificates of deposit. Longtime president and CEO Gerald J. Gillikin Jr. boasted that HRACU's "excellent strategic plan" should bring even more gains in 2006 and 2007.

Instead, Gillikin and other senior executives are now gone—thrown out by state and federal regulators. The seventy-year-old financial institution, which has assets of \$362 million, is operating under federal oversight. It's the first credit union to be taken over in Michigan in more than twenty years.

In theory, credit unions are owned by their members—but Huron River has told its owner-depositors very little about what went wrong. Its public statements have been mostly boilerplate reassurances that federally insured deposits are safe. Attempts to reach Gillikin were unsuccessful, and interim CEO Julie Kreinbring and several former board members did not return phone calls for this story. When an HRACU member called in mid-March, though, she was told by a staffer that the credit union's problems were "not of a financial nature"—that regulators merely "disagreed" with some of the former managers' decisions.

The second half of that statement is certainly true. The first half almost certainly is not. In announcing the takeover, the Michigan Office of Financial and Insurance Services said it was necessary to "conserve the assets" of the credit union.

How did such a long-established institution fail? The regulators aren't talking—but the prime suspect is that "excellent strategic plan." In hindsight, it appears to have been a high-stakes gamble on the housing market.

In 2005, Huron River extended \$45 million in new-home construction loan commitments—more than seven times the total of a year earlier. It also doubled its business loan commitments. Helped along by a "ten-second approval lending center" that allowed members to get loans swiftly, HRACU's loan volume tripled in 2005 and 2006, to \$228 million.

The credit union doubled its bet on the housing market by ramping up mortgage lending. Total mortgages tripled in value in the same period, to \$240 million. HRACU made mortgages with down payments as low as 3 percent—and recently, most of its new loans have been balloon or hybrid mortgages, which often offer lower initial monthly payments. Such "creative"



At Huron River Area Credit Union, officials said all was rosy—but the government saw unacceptable risks.

financing has since driven many over-stretched borrowers into foreclosure—and badly hurt lenders as well (see "Pushed off Easy Street," p. 23).

HRACU's timing couldn't have been worse: its home lending soared just as the housing market went into a sharp decline (see "Home Builders Cut Back," below). The credit union's loan delinquencies more than doubled from 2004 to 2006, going from \$1.9 million to \$4.8 million. Last year, Huron River wrote off close to \$575,000 in loans just from borrowers who'd filed for bankruptcy—three times as much as in 2005. Yet its reserves for bad debts barely increased at all, staying in or near the \$700,000 range for several years.

To make things worse, HRACU was paying top dollar for the money it was lending out. As recently as February the credit union was advertising 6 percent rates on certificates of deposit—an astonishingly high return that attracted depositors from all over the country.

There was no hint of danger in HRACU's annual reports; on the contrary, they showed steadily increasing profits in recent years. But the credit union's management "took risks the regulators were uncomfortable with," says David Adams, president of the Michigan Credit Union League. Adams speculates that officials may have grown concerned after looking at HRACU's books during a routine visit and stepped in "to avoid potential losses."

It's possible the credit union's member-



Builder Jim Haeussler has seen his company's new-home sales drop by more than 50 percent in the last year.

directors didn't even realize the risks they were running. "The board of directors is proud to report an outstanding year," wrote chair David LaMoreaux in HRACU's 2006 annual report. By then, the housing slump was already painfully obvious—yet LaMoreaux touted the credit union's jump in construction loans as one of its "wonderful successes."

Home Builders Cut Back

Requests for residential building permits countywide fell from 1,745 in 2005 to 738 in 2006.

Jim Haeussler, president of Peters Building Company, says the decrease in permits reflects a sharp decline in new-home sales over the last eighteen months. "We were selling at eighty units a year," says Haeussler. "Now we are down to thirty-five units a year."

Peters has about 216 units available in several developments in the Ann Arbor area. The company is still working on new homes in the Kirtland Hills sub in Pittsfield Township and Saline Valley Farms in York Township, but the slowdown has had a big impact. Haeussler has reduced his in-house staff from sixteen people to ten.

Tim Bortles, press secretary for International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 252, blames overbuilding for growing unemployment in the building trades. "The builders had the philosophy that if we built it they will come," says Bortles. "That started the decline in the market."

Haeussler agrees that there was forward purchasing of lots, particularly among the national building companies. Builders who might have counted on selling eighty units in 2006 went ahead and developed 100 units. However, he blames the state's poor economic health and recent local troubles, not overbuilding, for the soft market.

Haeussler expects the slow sales to continue for a year or two. He's hoping that much of the market uncertainty stems from fear of layoffs in the auto industry, and that demand will pick up once the current round of cuts is finalized. While Pfizer's departure will surely have an impact, no one knows yet how great it will be.

A builder since 1977, Haeussler says that he's seen worse times in the building industry, particularly during the recession of the early 1980s. And Jim Valley, president of JL Enterprises, remembers an even earlier slump, in 1974. Back then, parts of the state had 14 percent unemployment, and his father joined a convoy of tradesmen who drove to Lansing and petitioned governor William Milliken for relief.

At least this time the unemployed don't need to converge on Lansing to get the gov's attention. Governor Jennifer Granholm has visited Ann Arbor several times since Pfizer's announcement, and

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Inside Ann Arbor continued

transforming Michigan's economy featured prominently in her State of the State address this year.



MARK BIALEK

Serious about Salsa

A dance party joins the salsa circuit.

Dance Revolution Dance Studio's bi-monthly party on East William feels like a festival in the tropics. Under strings of blue and white lights, pairs of dancers deliver salsa step combinations so nuanced, intricate, and perfectly matched you wonder whether a choreographer is lurking in the shadows. Though there are other salsa nights in town, "we tend to attract more experienced dancers," explains studio owner and Latin dance lover Jamie Taylor. It's an international crowd, with people originally hailing from places as diverse as Cameroon, China, Senegal, and different parts of Latin America. Some travel a circuit of salsa nights, hitting different clubs across southeastern Michigan throughout the week.

Salsa fans gather every first and third Saturday. Everyone is asked to bring a clean pair of shoes, though some opt for bare feet or socks. Once the shoes are on (or off), the dancing gets so hot it steams up the windows. Couples swap sultry looks and impossibly sensual hip swivels.

Some ladies come dressed for salsa success—think spicy and red with seductive, layered fringe. On the other end of the spectrum, a woman can flex her moves in tennis shoes and stretch workout gear. Most partygoers, male and female, dress in some version of jeans and a nice shirt.

Admission to the party is \$5, or \$8 with a dance class beforehand—useful for keeping the uninitiated from inflicting too much toe crushing on their partners.

TV Boot Camp

Local women star in a grueling reality show.

Noura Bashshur says competing in a reality show was the best thing she's ever done in her life. Never mind the death waiver she had to sign beforehand, or the broken nose she gained along the way.

Bashshur, a petite, exceedingly in-shape forty-one-year-old, is a project manager in the U-M subdepartment of plastic surgery. But six times a week, she also teaches an array of fitness classes at Liberty Athletic Club, Washtenaw County Parks and Rec, and Gold's Gym. And she was intrigued when she saw a press release announcing auditions for *X-Treme Warrior*, about a military-style women's boot camp.

"I'm a fitness instructor, so I'm always in charge," Bashshur explains. "I wondered what it would be like to do a workout that I'm not good at, that I don't lead. They say your true character really comes out when you're stressed, and I wanted to see what I was made of."

Fitness guru Omar Akl conceived of the show, in which teams compete for a \$25,000 prize. Eighty women took part on ten teams, including two other women from Ann Arbor. Filmed at an undisclosed location in northern Michigan, the nine-episode show premieres locally on April 11 at 6 p.m. on Comcast Local, repeating on Thursday evenings.

Akl is known for his rigorous fitness classes taught out of West Bloomfield and via his website, Omar's Planet. According to Bashshur, everything about the experience was "brutal and military style." That included the physical competitions, sleeping arrangements, and limited food supply: "If your bagel fell in the dirt, you were, like, 'This is better than the West End Grill right now!' You were just happy to be eating something."

Bashshur says she's not catty and neither was the show. "This was not like *Survivor*, with all the plotting and manipulation. It showed the good side of human nature and showcased teamwork."

So what did she discover about her character? "I teach yoga, but I've never practiced my yoga beliefs under those conditions," she says. "It was about choosing how you wanted to react to things. You may be miserable at the time—but make the best of it."

Bashshur also discovered why the producers made everyone sign that waiver. During one basketball-like competition, she heard "a loud crack in my head" and realized that someone's foot had crashed into her face and broken her nose. She didn't stop: "When I saw blood gushing out of my nose I said, 'Give me the gauze and let's go.'"

Help for Sleep Apnea

"I think I stopped breathing about sixty times during the night," says Michael Brady.

Brady has "obstructive sleep apnea"—and he's far from alone. St. Joseph Mercy Hospital's Sleep Disorders Center opened in 1984 with the capacity to see ten patients weekly. Now it has a total of five labs that see as many as 200 patients per week.

"The hallmark for OSA is snoring," explains center director Dr. Thomas Gravellyn. "During sleep all the muscles in the body relax, including those of the tongue, palate, and upper airway. Relaxation caus-

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Inside Ann Arbor continued

es the airway opening to narrow. When you're trying to pull air in through a very narrow opening, it causes the palatal tissue to vibrate, and that's the sound of snoring—snoring is just a hallmark for 'I'm having trouble breathing during sleep.' During deep or REM sleep, the airway can close completely, and people can stop breathing and even die of suffocation.

"I'd never enter REM," says Brady, a patient of Gravelyn's. OSA reduces oxygen levels in the blood, in turn triggering the brain to shift from deeper to lighter sleep. This transition increases muscle tone in the airway and improves breathing—at the cost of getting a good night's rest. "If you're struggling to breathe during sleep, it's harder for the brain to relax," explains Gravelyn. In addition, adrenaline spikes overstimulate the nervous system, elevating blood pressure.

"There is an association between sleep apnea and cardiovascular disease including high blood pressure, congestive heart failure, and stroke," says Gravelyn.

Two risk factors are obesity and having a relative with OSA. Brady's father has also been diagnosed with the condition, and both men have struggled with weight gain. "Sleep in part helps control appetite," Gravelyn explains. "It ends up in a vicious cycle where you gain weight, your sleep starts to break up, your appetite is stimulated, you gain more weight, your sleep gets further fractionated..." After diagnosis and treatment, Brady lost twenty-two pounds, and his father dropped from 240 to 193.

Most people snore sometimes, but Gravelyn urges anyone who snores regularly—or has been observed to stop breathing—to get an evaluation. Men are twice as likely to have OSA as women: "If you're a man, you're getting older, you're starting to put on some extra weight—those are all huge red flags that should drive an evaluation. Good sleep is extremely important to health."



Mark Race gets all wired up by St. Joe's Sleep Disorders Center technician Annette Spady.

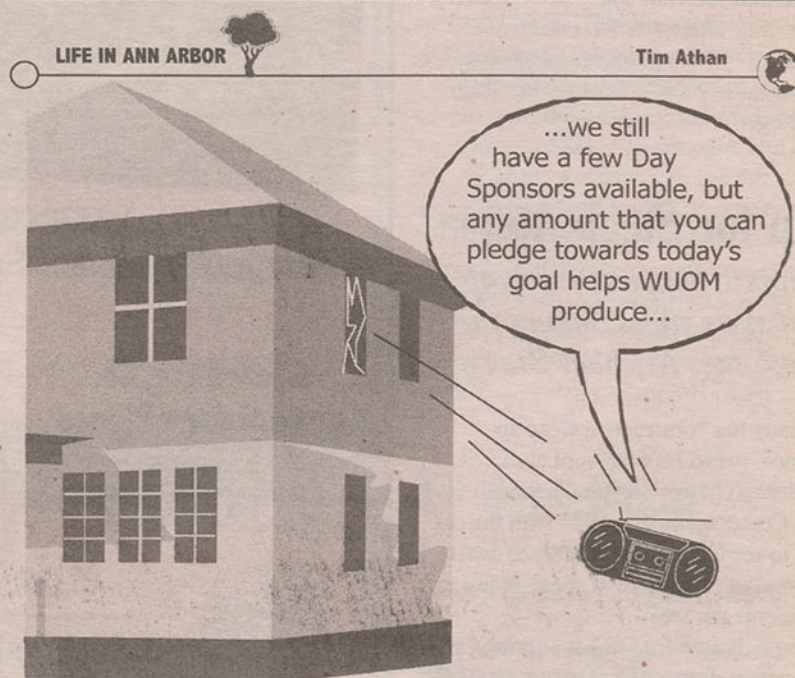
Balanced Views

In one Ann Arbor backyard, a seesaw serves as the engine of truth.

Bill Clinton will deliver the U-M commencement address April 28—and Homeless Dave Askins is hoping the former president won't get out of town without tottering.

This needn't alarm the Secret Service. It's only that Askins covets an illustrious interviewee for his website, Teeter Talk. Since taking the Q&A site live in December 2005, this gentle and good-hearted map has seated nearly 100 subjects on the homemade teeter-totter in his backyard, recorded interviews, and posted the edited transcripts at homelessdave.com. Why shouldn't Bill Clinton be next?

Despite his nickname, Askins has a lovely home on the Old West Side. His cockamamie hair and great, brown broadloom of a beard made a respectable lady once assume he was homeless, and the ap-



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Inside Ann Arbor continued

pellation stuck. In 2004 he knocked together the teeter-totter as a fifteenth-anniversary present for his wife. Inspired by a regular interview feature in the *New York Times Magazine*, he's since recruited notable and obscure citizens to talk to while tottering.

Askins set out "to reveal more complexity than a regular article," and often achieves it. The somewhat random and breathtakingly broad range of "totterees" has included everybody from mayor John Hieftje to "Pete J.," a U-M student who came to Askins's door canvassing for the Sierra Club.

René Greff, cofounder of Arbor Brewing Company, was guest number one. It snowed the day of her interview, and Askins figured he would get a phone call with regrets, but she showed up. "It was sort of like going on a blind date," Greff recalls. "And I think the fact that we were both nervous kind of set us at ease."

Askins isn't out to do grassroots journalism, although that's undeniably an aspect. "To me," he says, "the essence of the experience lies in the discourse and conversation more so than in the journalistic enterprise of documenting." He also just likes to give folks the opportunity to tell their own stories. "For some people, sitting on the teeter-totter is a threshold to be met, a barrier; for others, it's a selling point," he says.



MARK BIALEK

"Homeless Dave" Askins interviews both notable and obscure Ann Arborites on his backyard teeter-totter.

Askins can spend as much as ten hours transcribing a single one-hour interview. But he's not complaining. "Every day I have a tottering guest," he points out, "is a day I get to ride a teeter-totter."

calls & letters

Modern leprosy

To the editor:

Peggy Page's article "Modern Leprosy" (My Town, March) accurately conveyed the insanity of unemployment but without emoting or being maudlin. Her advice for the laid-off and the friends of the laid-off was also right on target.

Ms. Page's last paragraph really resonates with me: "Right now this sucks. Have the courage to face it with them." Our political and community leaders need to hear that. The "hype-ortunities" being generated by Gov. Granholm et al. is great, but the reality is that *maybe* fifty Pfizer employees will actually benefit from it. If a huge company like Pfizer is cutting back to stay alive, why in the world does everyone think the ex-Pfizer employees want to take on the costly risk of taking Pfizer's place? That's the real question Michigan needs to face about not just Pfizer, but all the employers who are leaving.

Sincerely,
Kathy Mennen

Hepatitis C

Debbie Green "mentioned how surprised she was to learn that four million Americans may have hepatitis C," Gary

Lillie said in a phone call, referring to our March Up Front on Green's fundraising efforts. "Walter Reed Hospital did a study and found that 15 percent of the Vietnam vets coming through the system have hepatitis C. They're at much greater risk than the general public." Soldiers were infected by everything from blood transfusions to tattoos, but Lillie believes the military's own immunizations against other illnesses helped spread the disease. "They gave us shots with those high-speed guns that look like air nailers," he recalls. "And if they drew blood, they just kept going."

i9 Sports

Our March Up Front on i9 Sports of Washtenaw County thoroughly scrambled the names of the couple who own it. Our apologies to Chris and Kara Cristian.

Oil pastels, not monoprints

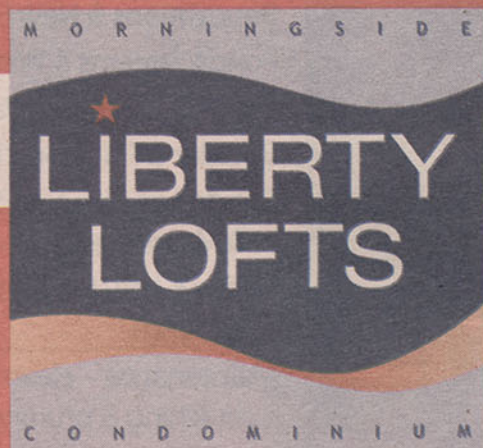
Esther Kirshenbaum stopped by to point out that we listed the wrong medium for her show at Kerrytown Concert House (Galleries, March). They're oil pastels, not monoprints. The exhibition continues through April.

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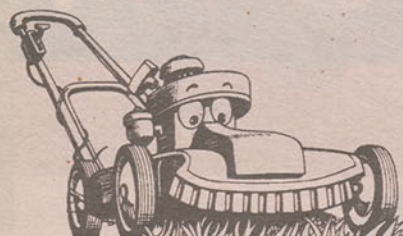
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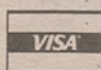
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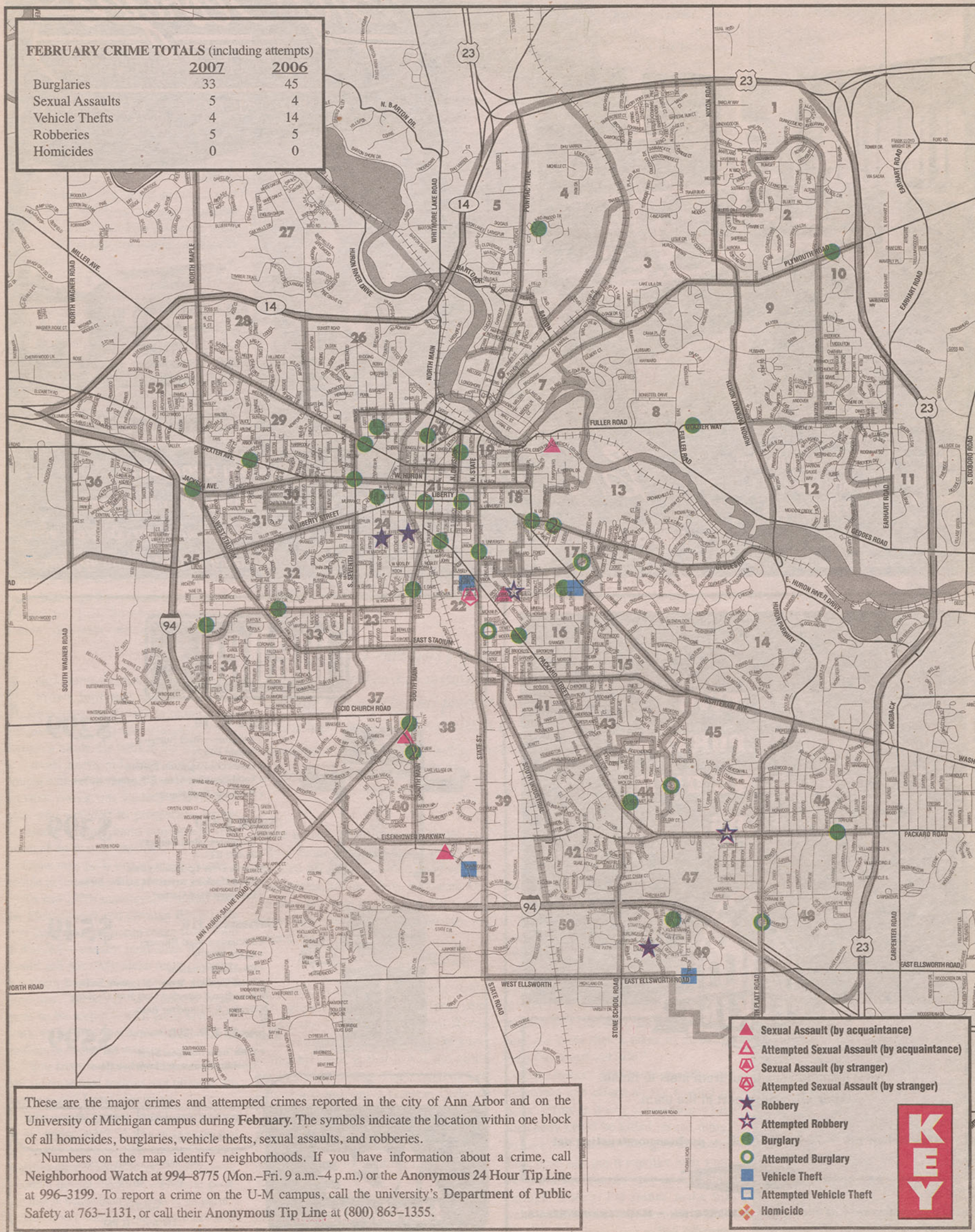
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CrimeMap

FEBRUARY CRIME TOTALS (including attempts)

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Sexual Assaults	5	4
Vehicle Thefts	4	14
Robberies	5	5
Homicides	0	0





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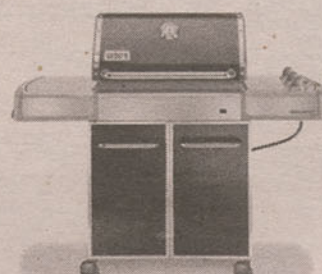
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Ann Arborites

Kevin Lentz

Vintage motorcycle mechanic

Kevin Lentz lives a frazzled existence, but he can't imagine any other kind. "I'm ADD," he offers, in the midst of one of his machine-gun monologues on everything from repairing vintage motorcycles to growing up a countercultural loner in conservative rural Minnesota.

Just listening to Lentz describe his life can make you tired. There's his motorcycle repair work, which he loves but which doesn't pay enough to live on: he says that when he tells potential customers what it would cost to restore their beloved antiques, 90 percent hang up. So he also does everything from welding metal railings to fixing farm equipment. Weekends, he often performs with his folk-rock band Black Train. He plays bass and guitar and sings; the four other members include his girlfriend, German language instructor Vicki Dischler. Lentz's two teenage sons, Corey and Miles, live with him part of the time (he is divorced). "It causes me a lot of stress—juggling," he says. Still, Lentz has more trouble with structure than with a life full of loose ends. Years ago he worked as a technical writer; he quit, he says, because "I couldn't deal with cubicle land."

Lentz, forty-six, has a shock of light brown hair that inclines toward cowlicks. He dresses in rough, comfortable clothes and has calloused, workman's hands. He talks in the kitchen of his small north-side house, which he bought without having set foot inside—the previous owner was feuding with the tenants, who wouldn't let prospective buyers in. Black Train's band equipment fills much of the narrow basement.

Lentz says he is one of maybe a dozen people in the state who specialize in fixing 1970s and 1980s motorcycles, mainly Italian Moto Guzzis and German BMWs. He says that repair costs can range from \$500 to \$11,000—usually more than the bikes would sell for. "My niche really is bringing them back from the dead, not just tune-ups," he says. "If a person wants them to be pretty"—with paint and body work as well as mechanical repairs—"it doubles or triples the price."

"You have to make the decision to repair on emotional reasons, not rational, objective ones," Lentz concludes.

Why would anyone spend so much on an old motorcycle? "A mix of features that are really practical, the ease of normal maintenance—simplicity," Lentz says. "Robust design, comfort—a whole package that is better than the sum of its parts."

Just don't confuse his customers with the Harley-Davidson crowd. "Harley



GRIFIN LINDSAY

When Kevin Lentz tells potential customers what it would cost to restore their beloved vintage motorcycles, 90 percent hang up. "You have to make the decision to repair on emotional reasons," he says, "not rational, objective ones."

World is more about style and image and status," Lentz sniffs. His bikers are usually not well off, he says—they may collect motorcycles, but they drive \$200 cars. Often they pay him in installments; sometimes they leave their bikes with him for several years.

Lentz learned how to use tools growing up on a dairy farm near Lake City, a Mississippi River town whose claim to distinction, he says, rolling his eyes, is that it was the birthplace of water skiing. The second of five kids in a conservative German Catholic family, Lentz clashed often with his dad, who wouldn't let him buy a motorcycle, because, Lentz says, "he was pretty opposed to anything mechanical for pleasure."

As a teenager in the 1970s, Lentz lost himself in the music of Bob Dylan and absorbed the life stories of John Ken-

nedy and other 1960s icons. He finally bought his first motorcycle when he was nineteen. "I crashed it six times the first summer and somehow survived," he says, recalling that he "slid on gravel, had a dog running in front of me, hit potholes." Although wearing a helmet saved his life, Lentz still opposes government regulations requiring cyclists to wear them—while admitting "you'd have to be an idiot not to wear one."

After going to college on and off for ten years, Lentz finally earned a degree in technical communications from the University of Minnesota. But he says his most powerful learning experience came when he discovered the best-selling quasi-philosophical *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*, by Robert Pirsig. It was, he says, a "near religious" experience. (He took his technical writing job at Honeywell because Pirsig had once worked there, in the same office.) Married at twenty-six, Lentz and his then wife moved to Ann Arbor in 1987

because she had family in Michigan. For several years Lentz was a stay-at-home dad. Coping with his boys' "relentless demands," he says, made it the hardest job he's ever had.

He gets most of his motorcycle work through word of mouth: one man in California spent \$450 to ship his engine to Lentz. The Internet has made it easier to locate parts—in the past he sometimes had to make his own—but the business remains tricky, because "the market won't bear the costs that it takes to make the thing functional and safe."

Lentz doesn't mind keeping a bike until the owner can afford all the needed repairs. "You're doing something where somebody could be killed on the thing," he says. "So I'm not willing to take something apart and put it together with worn-out parts because the guy doesn't have enough money. I'd rather make him wait—or drive him away from my door."

—Eve Silberman

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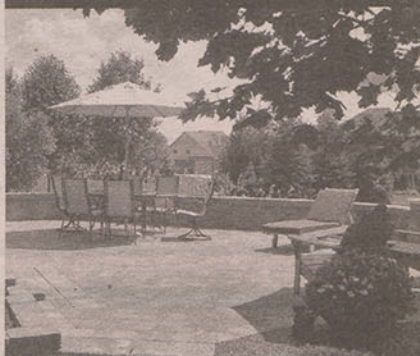
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PHOTOS GRIF

Home foreclosures are soaring in Ann Arbor.

PUSHED OFF EASY STREET

by Vickie Elmer

The house on Easy Street looks like a place where kids would ride tricycles and play with a dog named Trixie. It has an oversize lot, a fenced yard, and a well-maintained appearance.

The house on Champagne Drive feels abandoned and uncared for. The small tan ranch is a bit run down and ragged—as are many of its neighbors.

No one's drinking toasts at the house on Champagne—but life isn't any easier on Easy Street. Lenders recently foreclosed on both homes for unpaid mortgage debts. Their neighborhoods in southeast Ann Arbor, like many others locally, have been hit by multiple foreclosures in recent months after home owners fell behind on their payments.

More than 700 homes were foreclosed on in the county last year, up from 444 in 2005. And the numbers are continuing to rise. Sheriff's special deputy Jimmy Moore, who conducts the weekly foreclosure sales at the Washtenaw County Courthouse, says he set a personal record in mid-February, auctioning thirty-five properties in a single day.

Foreclosure has claimed at least four other houses on Easy Street, which runs alongside Buhr Park near Cobblestone Farm. The neat ranch homes that sold two years ago for \$230,000 now are fetching \$200,000 or less. "Easy Street's become a slippery slope," says Moore.

So have many other places in Ann Arbor, including Champagne Drive's Arbor Oaks neighborhood, the Chapel Hill Condominiums on Green Road, and the Maple-Miller area in northwest Ann Arbor. No demographic is immune. Foreclosure is hitting senior citizens, first-time home buyers, and professionals who lose a job. Especially at risk are people who took out adjustable-rate mortgages—and now have seen their payments shoot up.



More than 700 homes were foreclosed in Washtenaw County last year, including four on Easy Street on Ann Arbor's southeast side (above). EMU secretary Phyllis Carter (below) wants to stay in her foreclosed home—but since she's working two jobs and says she's still struggling, selling the house is her only hope to keep from losing her equity altogether.

Nationwide, the number of foreclosure actions rose 42 percent from 2005 to 2006, according to RealtyTrac, a consulting and sales service. Washtenaw County's increase was an even bigger 58 percent. "In

2006 it just went like hell," says Moore, who's conducted the foreclosure sales for almost twelve years.

Moore and others figure 2007 will be worse still. "Ann Arbor's getting hit a lot lately," he says. Some weeks nearly half the homes and condominiums Moore sells are in Ann Arbor—and with Pfizer's closing and the continuing cutbacks in the auto industry, the number is likely to rise. "It's going to get worse before it's going to get better," says Rick Sharga, a RealtyTrac vice-president, who predicts a rise of another 20 to 25 percent in foreclosures nationwide in 2007—and perhaps a bigger jump in Michigan.

Foreclosures don't just hurt home owners. They also cost lenders, when mortgages go bad; municipal and county budgets, which depend on property tax revenues; and even neighbors, who may see the value of their own homes and the vitality of

their neighborhoods depressed when buildings stand vacant or are sold at discounted prices. And if families who lose their homes continue their financial decline, they may go from independence to needing social services and shelter.

"We've always thought of ourselves as immune" to such economic woes, says county treasurer Catherine McClary. Not anymore. She says that in recent months initial notices of foreclosures have been filed on about eight mortgages a day in the county—and in about half of those cases, people end up losing their homes.

Phyllis Carter wants to stay where she is. But her home in Superior Township sold at auction March 1 for \$73,147.90—just before Carter, a divorced mother of two, showed up at the Courthouse. Dressed all in white, she shed just a few tears and then said, "God's going to get me through. I have faith." Her three-bedroom 1950s-era ranch overlooks a golf course and needs a new roof. She bought it in September 2002 partly because it was "the first house that looked halfway decent" in her \$75,000 price range.

A former air force administrator who once worked at the Pentagon, Carter is a secretary at Eastern Michigan University and also is taking classes there toward a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. Last fall she took a part-time position at Sam's Club to bring in extra money. "I'm almost fifty





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years old and working two jobs" and still struggling to make it, she says.

Her financial troubles started a few years ago when her property taxes rose. She also had bouts of depression. Her teenage daughter had health problems that were only partially covered by Carter's insurance. Then her daughter had a baby, adding more expenses.

"My grandbaby Maya is my joy," Carter says. But sometimes, she admits, she spends too much on her and on her

Many of those who lose their homes are victims of seductive mortgage deals of recent years. Eager to make loans, lenders offered "creative" mortgages with little or no money down and unrealistically low initial payments. Often, those payments ballooned—and many buyers couldn't keep up.

sixteen-year-old son. Then there are her own tuition, books, and supplies.

"I've got to find a way to save," she says. "But saying I don't have the money just hurts so" when her children are asking her to buy things.

Now she's looking for ways out. At the sheriff's sale, Carter's mortgage lender bought her home—but if she can come up with the money within six months, she has the legal right to buy it back. That rarely happens—only about sixteen homes were "redeemed" in the county last year—but Carter is preparing to list the house again, hoping to sell it for more than the auction price.

Drowning in debt

Foreclosure can happen to almost anyone—from a family that scraped together barely enough to buy a \$80,000 place in Manchester to one that stretched for a \$1 million dream house along the Huron River. Jimmy Moore says he's selling more high-end homes these days, with several each month priced at or near \$1 million. The most expensive he can recall recently is a \$1.9 million mansion in Superior Township.

Vacant houses are a familiar sight in the Arbor Oaks neighborhood off Stone School Road. The tiny ranches here have been first homes for several generations of Ann Arborites—but lately a lot of owners have been moving out. Billy Scott, the postal carrier for the area, counts four vacancies on Lucerne, three on Hemlock,

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and five on Metroview. He's surprised to learn some were foreclosed when their owners couldn't keep up the payments.

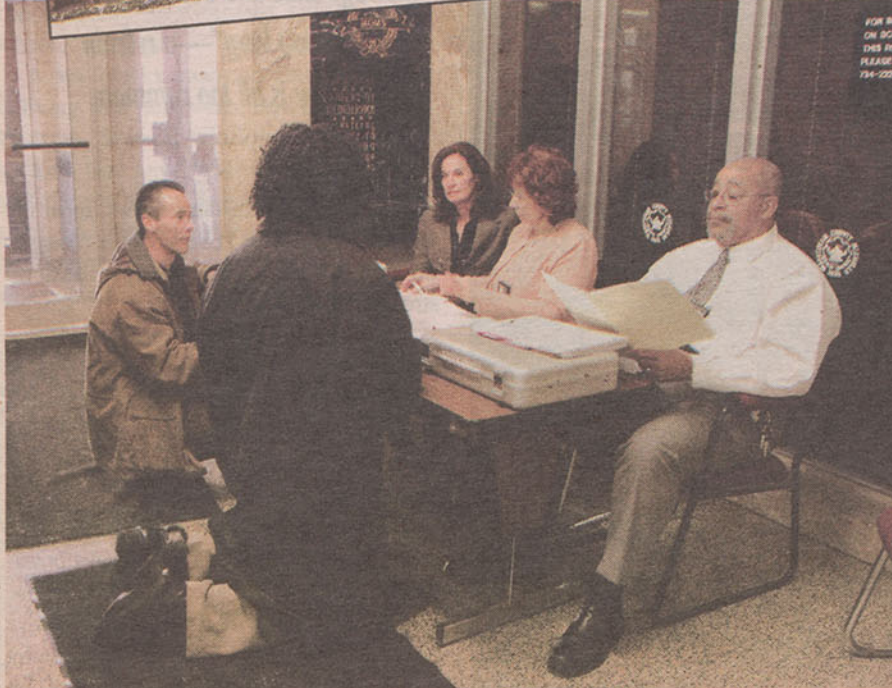
Many of those who lose their homes are the victims of seductive mortgage deals of recent years. Eager to make loans, lenders offered "creative" mortgages with little or no money down and unrealistically low initial payments. Often, those payments ballooned—and many buyers couldn't keep up.

James Dries, the county's chief deputy register of deeds, suspects that adjustable-rate mortgages are contribut-

waited too long," she says, a refrain experts say is all too common.

Many other factors can put people in danger of losing their home. "Unemployment, divorce, illness, lawsuits, or natural disasters push people into foreclosure," says Sharga of RealtyTrac. But he says the best predictor is the area's unemployment rate. "We see a one-to-one correlation" between unemployment rates and forced home sales, he says.

Washtenaw County continues to have a lower jobless rate (4.4 percent in December) than the rest of the state's metropolitan areas. Yet the unemployment rate has been rising and seems certain to increase further this year and next, as Pfizer shuts down and other employers feel a ripple effect. Amanda Shutko, a credit coun-



(Above) A foreclosed house near Eberwhite School. (Below, right) Sheriff's special deputy Jimmy Moore auctions homes in a cramped Courthouse corridor. Moore sold thirty-five homes in a single session in February—a personal record.

ing to house payment defaults. A condominium in Saline sold at foreclosure recently for \$105,000, five years after the owner bought it using an adjustable-rate loan. The owner asked that her name not be published, because she does not want relatives, friends, and coworkers to know what happened. "I went from excellent credit to foreclosure," she says. "I kept it very quiet."

Her troubles started after a divorce; they were magnified when she used credit cards to buy furniture and other goods for her two college-age children as well as for herself. Then her mortgage payments and condominium fees increased—and she couldn't keep up. "I never thought this would happen to me," she says, expressing regret that she didn't seek help from a credit counselor or her lender before letting her mortgage slide into default. "I

selor at GreenPath Debt Solutions, sees about twenty people a week who are having housing payment problems. "Previously there were more options available," she says. But the decline in housing prices has made it much harder to sell a house to get out of debt, especially when home owners have little equity.

"Jeff Hess"—who asked that his real name not be published—is preparing to move into an apartment for the first time in twenty years, after losing his house in southeast Ann Arbor in March. He bought it in 1987 when he was finishing graduate school at the U-M. He and his now ex-wife refinanced it a couple of times, wrapping in other debt, and the mortgage payment soared to nearly \$2,000 a month, not including property taxes.

That was steep but manageable—until he and his wife separated more than a year

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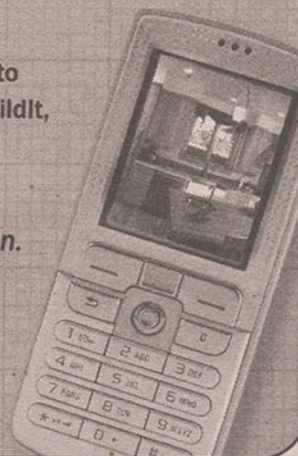
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continued

ago. Hess says his income as a self-employed graphic artist declined as the "stress and struggle of divorce" interfered with his work. Yet his children still wanted the sports equipment and electronic toys other teens have.

"Ann Arbor kids go to school with kids who get brand-new cars on their sixteenth

"I never thought this would happen to me," says a Saline woman whose condo is in foreclosure. Instead of seeking help from a credit counselor or her lender before letting her mortgage slide into default, she says, "I waited too long"—a refrain experts say is all too common.

birthday. A new Mustang shows up in the driveway," he says. "Everybody's trying to do everything"—and people end up stretched too thin.

As widespread as the problem is, few people want to admit they're drowning in debt. A number of people going through foreclosure—including the owner of the neat house on Easy Street—declined to discuss their situations.

Sometimes the bad news hits at the worst possible time. It's not always possible to determine the ages of people whose homes are going into foreclosure, says McClary, the county treasurer. But among those whose age is known, one-third are fifty-five and up.

A vicious spiral

Given Michigan's economy, it's no surprise that the state has a high mortgage delinquency rate. About 7.4 percent of all mortgages in the state were delinquent in the third quarter of 2006, compared to 4.7 percent nationwide, according to the Mortgage Bankers Association.

Lenders' past easy-credit policies are now coming home to roost. The national delinquency rate for subprime adjustable-rate mortgages—made to people with low credit scores, histories of personal bankruptcy, or other financial liabilities—stood at 13.2 percent in the third quarter of last year, a rise of nearly two percentage points over the previous year. That means that one of every eight borrowers is at least sixty days behind in his or her payments. Worries about mortgage repayments by home owners with lesser credit scores have hit several publicly traded subprime loan originators, which face steep losses and government investigations.

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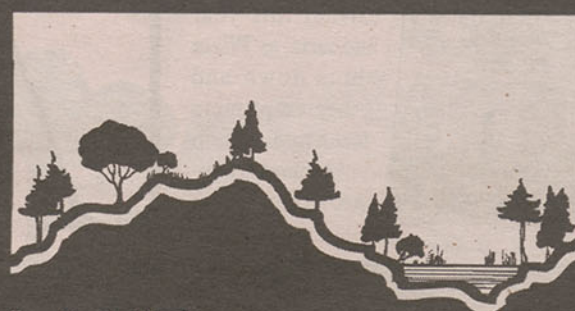
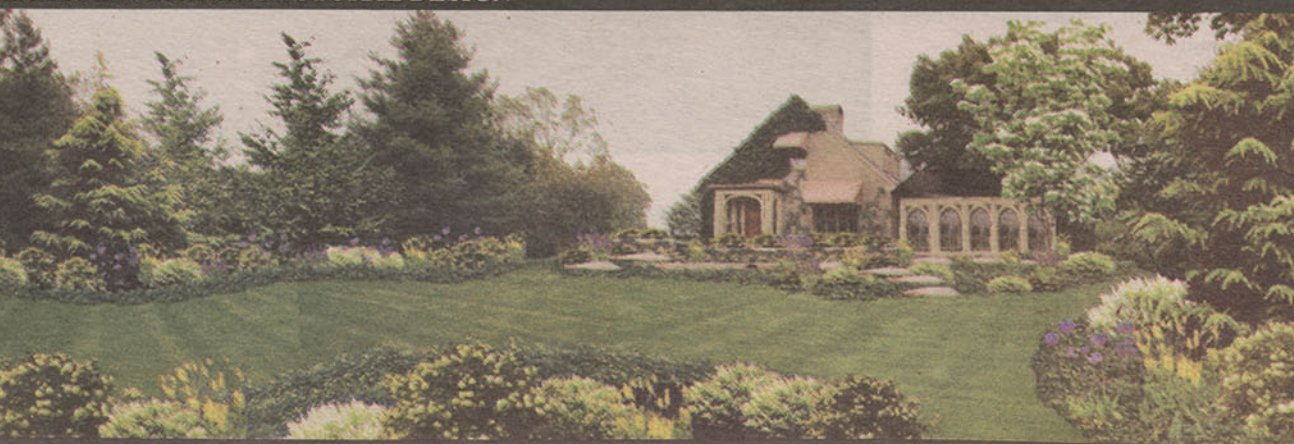
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Foreclosures and declining home prices feed each other in a vicious spiral. The slowing housing market makes it harder for strapped borrowers to bail out of a mortgage by selling their homes. In return, a glut of foreclosed homes can reduce values in a market by pulling down average prices. RealtyTrac figures homes in foreclosure sell for an average of 72 percent of their market value. Having 702 properties, most of them residences, sold at foreclosure auctions in the county last year almost certainly lowered home prices in many neighborhoods, especially since fewer homes sold by normal means than in previous years.

"It brings down prices overall," says Lou Glorie, a broker with Keller Williams Realty. The upside: "People can afford Ann Arbor who didn't think they could before."

When foreclosed homes sit vacant after their owners move out or are evicted, they can blight a neighborhood. A white flat-roofed house at 2501 Brockman, near Pattengill School, has peeling paint and no signs of life. According to a neighbor, the former residents have been gone for two years. "They lost their jobs; they lost their home; they moved south somewhere," she says.

A few blocks away, on Ferdon, no one is living in a neat white ranch with black shutters. Several windows bear orange stickers that say "Warning: winterized," and there's a For Sale sign in the front yard. And throughout the city, an increasing number of condominium units remain unoccupied months after foreclosure.

Each of these vacant, foreclosed homes represents a loss for the former owners and their neighbors. To some investors looking for bargains, though, they're symbols of opportunity.

Banks usually start foreclosure proceedings when a home owner misses three successive mortgage payments. Before the home can be sold at a sheriff's auction, though, the lenders must post a public notice, often in the *Washtenaw County Legal News*, as well as thumbtack a notice to the home owner's property. Investors read these advertisements, looking for properties they can snap up cheap.

Three investors showed up at a sheriff's sale in the Courthouse in late February and watched as Moore moved efficiently through his list of properties, following a script he memorized long ago.

Investor Erik Lovell, a partner in Home Buyers Realty in Ann Arbor, says his company has purchased about twenty homes in Washtenaw County in the last three years, some of them at this auction. "The sheriff's sale is a formality to get the bank's name on the property," he says.

Moore starts the auction of each property with a proposed opening bid, usually set by the mortgage lender. "Do I have an additional bid?" he asks several times, not really expecting one. "Not hearing another bid, it's sold to the mortgage company."

Moore runs through all the properties—mostly homes, but also the occasional gas station or apartment complex. (A church in Ypsilanti fell to foreclosure just before Christmas last year for failing to pay on its \$640,000 mortgage.) During the sale, a

couple of real estate agents and their assistants sit or stand watching, gleaning tidbits about prices and prospects to take to clients.

Michele, a single mother from Ypsilanti, watches silently as her house sells for \$288,000. Tears fall quietly down her calm face.

"I've already lost my business. Now I'm losing my home," she says after the sale. "People fall on hard times. What can you do?"

Tips for avoiding foreclosure

Financial pressures don't have to end in foreclosure. Credit counselors and others offer these ways to forestall disaster:

- **Ask the lender for more time to sell the house.** Homes in the Ann Arbor area sold in eighty-one days on average last year, according to the Ann Arbor Area Board of Realtors.
- **Negotiate for better terms.** Many banks would rather keep a customer in the home paying on the loan than go through foreclosure. To make that possible, some lenders will reduce the interest rate or roll it back for a time. "If lenders discount at the sale, they'll discount to the home owner," says foreclosure auctioneer Jimmy Moore, who figures at least one-third of homes sold at the sheriff's auctions fetch less than the amount owed on the mortgage.
- **Shift missing payments to the end of the loan term.** Borrowers who do this may be able to catch up on their payments, though it costs more in the long run.
- **Make a graceful exit.** As an alternative to foreclosure, some lenders will agree to a "short sale." In a short sale, the owner sells the house for less than the amount owed—but agrees to turn all the proceeds over to the lender. A simpler variation is just relinquishing the deed to the lender. That will keep a foreclosure off the borrower's record and will save the lender thousands in legal fees.
- **Chapter 13 bankruptcy.** Some believe this type of bankruptcy filing, which allows debtors up to five years to repay their debts, is a better route than foreclosure.

Some resources

- **The Washtenaw County treasurer's office** has resources and counseling available for taxpayers who are behind on their county taxes and facing foreclosure. Call 222-6600.
- **Some credit unions** have credit counselors available to meet with members without charge or for low fees.
- **GreenPath Debt Solutions**, which has an Ann Arbor office, offers debt counseling, and the initial session is free. Call (888) 776-6735 for an assessment and to schedule an appointment, or go to greenpath.com. Fees vary after the initial free consultation.
- **The MSU Extension Office** for Washtenaw County runs foreclosure prevention seminars. A video may be available May 1. Call 997-1678 or check www.ewashtenaw.org/government/departments/extension/ex_extcomm.html/CommDevelopment/Foreclosure%20Prevention for other information.
- **The Michigan Attorney General** (www.michigan.gov/ag/0,1607,7-164-34739_20942-134533--,00.html) has information and advice on foreclosure scams.
- **The Ann Arbor Housing Bureau for Seniors** offers advice and advocacy and has two loan funds to help pay off back taxes or mortgages. Loans from this fund rarely exceed \$2,000. Call Terry Allon at 998-9341.
- **The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development** offers advice online (www.hud.gov/foreclosure/index.cfm).

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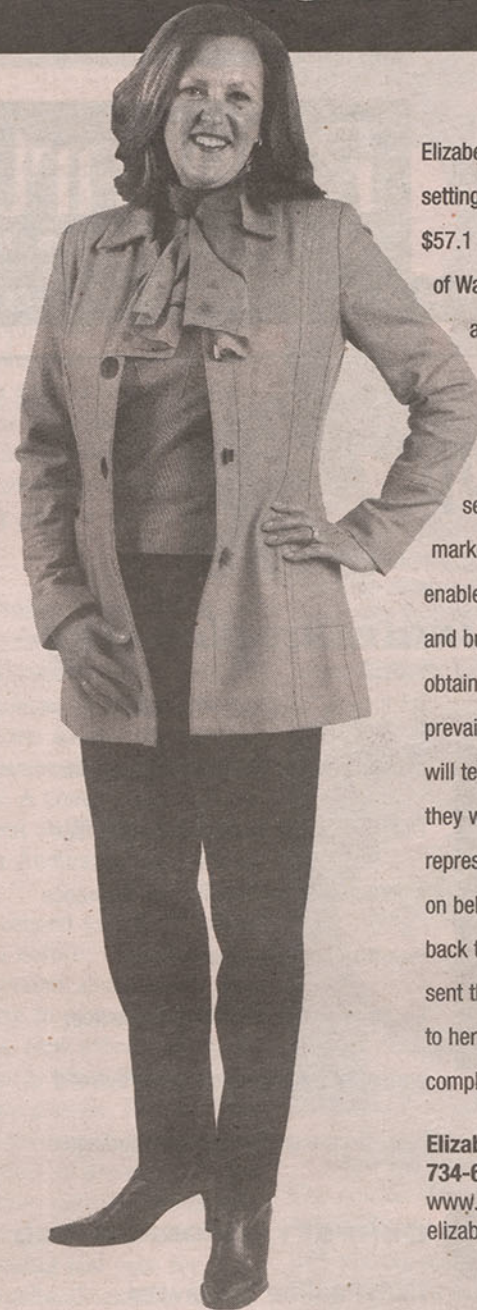
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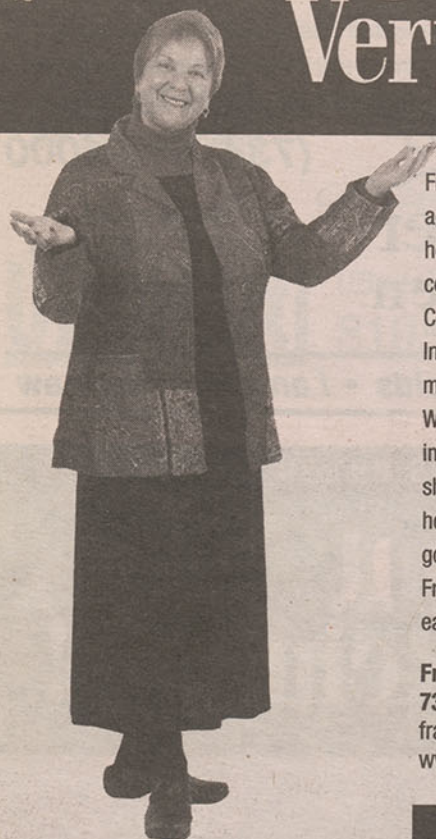
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VOLUNTEER ARMIES

FROM BARYSHNIKOV TO WEIRD AL YANKOVIC, ANN ARBOR'S USHERS DO IT FOR LOVE.

by Linda R. Benson

On a cold, wet Sunday last October, Valery Gergiev and the Kirov Orchestra of the Mariinsky Theater performed their final concert in the Shostakovich Centennial Festival under the auspices of the University Musical Society. It was the kind of audience Ann Arbor is noted for, knowledgeable about performance values and enthusiastic in showing its appreciation. Exactly one week later, Gergiev and company appeared in Avery Fisher Hall at New York City's Lincoln Center, performing the same repertoire to equally enthusiastic audiences.

One significant difference: The audience at 2,800-seat Fisher Hall was shepherded to its seats by a coterie of professional ushers compensated according to the scale of their union, the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees. Audiences at Hill, capacity 3,538, were seated by 160 volunteers spread over the main floor and two balconies.

UMS, the biggest presenting arts organization in Ann Arbor with seventy-five to eighty musical, dance, and dramatic productions a year, has no budget for ushers. "This has been an all-volunteer program ever since UMS started a hundred and twenty-seven years ago," says Suzanne Davidson, front-of-house coordinator for UMS. Three ushers, whom Davidson refers to as her "eyes and ears," receive small stipends as usher supervisors, but the multitude of other responsibilities that go under the label of "customer service" are handled by volunteers.

UMS is not alone in its reliance on volunteers. Performance Network, Ann Arbor Civic Theatre, Purple Rose Theatre, the Ann Arbor Summer Festival, University Productions, the Michigan Theater, the Ark—at just about every live performance venue in a town that is notably rich in its cultural offerings, volunteer ushers are the interface between management and audience. At UMS the volunteer list currently numbers about 600 people, a virtual army recruited from newspaper ads and website postings before the university's fall and winter terms. Performance Network has a list of about 400 volunteers, recruited from www.volunteermatch.com and the clearinghouse for volunteers on the United Way website. Chelsea's Purple Rose is less structured, usually recruiting by word of mouth.

The ushering community has its own demographics. Most of Ann Arbor's volunteers usher for more than one arts organization, with some even venturing as far as Detroit for opera and other offerings. They tend to be at opposite ends of the age spectrum—either people in their twenties, many of whom are aiming for careers in the arts, or empty-nesters and seniors. Many widows use ushering as a social network, and some people who usher together have formed meaningful friendships or romances—two years ago, two UMS ushers even got married. Still others have made the ushering experience into a lifestyle that borders on extreme sport, piggybacking matinees and evening performances on weekends and routinely scheduling two or more weeknights with ushering duties as well.

When Suzanne Davidson came to Ann Arbor almost three years ago, she knew only one person, the acquaintance who had told her about the opening at UMS. "Now I can't walk down the street without being recognized," she says, a consequence of her high profile at musical society performances. A Grand Rapids native who majored in arts management at Western Michigan University, she worked at Miller Auditorium in Kalamazoo before joining UMS.

"Most of the volunteers are concert lovers, but many have never had to give service before," Davidson explains. She sometimes gets complaints about ushers who are rude or insufficiently attentive to patrons—problems she addresses at training sessions. New ushers participate in skits and role-playing situations in which Davidson and other UMS staffers pretend to be patrons. For performances, all ushers are expected to arrive an hour early for a briefing that includes the number of tickets sold, the length of the event, and late-seating policies, which may be stipulated in various ways in the performers' contracts.

Davidson scheduled her wedding last year for mid-July, the slowest time on UMS's cultural calendar. She attends every concert, rarely sits down to listen, and always wears a walkie-talkie connected to the stage crew and to the ticket sellers. Her three "eyes and ears" ushers also have walkie-talkies and stake out specific locations so they can respond quickly to any problems that may develop at performance times. "If a cell phone rings more than once," Davidson says, "I want to hear about it."



Steve and Joyce Gerber (above, seating Judy Stumacher at the Power Center) have been ushering for twenty-five years; Paul and Martha Bhatia (below, seating Pam Kimber at Hill Auditorium) for ten. Joyce cried when she first moved to Ann Arbor from New York in 1971. "I thought we had left all the culture behind," she says. "Little did I know what we would be exposed to."



Davidson's troops include Martha and Paul Bhatia. The couple started volunteering ten years ago because they both like art and culture; they now usher at about fifty performances a year. "We love greeting the patrons. We do it for the joy of ushering," says Martha. "It's a very dedicated group of volunteers."

Joyce and Steve Gerber have been ushering for twenty-five years. "We love interacting with people and finding out all of their stories," says Joyce, a teacher at Emerson School. The Gerbers, who grew up in New York City and lived in New Jersey for a time after their marriage, admit they're stagestruck. Steve describes his

COMMUNITY SUPPORT RETURNS

VOLUNTEER ARMIES
continued



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brother, who lives in New York, as a caterer who provides services "to the rich and famous." Shock-jock radio host Howard Stern is a cousin.

"I cried the first year we moved here," Joyce says, recalling their arrival in Ann Arbor in 1971. "I thought we had left all the culture behind. Little did I know what we would be exposed to"—like the thrill, four years ago, of watching Mikhail Baryshnikov warm up before dancing at the Ann Arbor Summer Festival.

Steve remembers a scruffy guy who didn't have a ticket trying to get into Hill Auditorium before a "Weird Al" Yankovic concert. Steve sent him to another entrance—and only later, when he recognized the man's picture on fans' T-shirts, realized he'd met the star himself.

The Gerbers' ushering agenda regularly encompasses nine organizations: UMS, Performance Network, Purple Rose, University Productions, the Michigan Theater, the summer festival, Michigan Opera Theatre (MOT), and an occasional stint at Masonic Temple or the Gem in Detroit, usually as a doubleheader weekend in combination with an MOT performance. The summer festival is one of their favorite ushering occasions. Both are enthusiastic dancers; they often fit in a few dances at the Top of the Park during intermissions and after performances.

Both the Bhatias and the Gerbers are fearless in their pursuit of culture. Last summer the Gerbers ushered for a Native American festival in Northville; the sponsors had needed ushers and called UMS. "As ushers we can take chances on things we wouldn't see otherwise," says Martha Bhatia.

Audiences at UMS performances have long been viewed as the most traditional, well heeled, and well behaved in Ann Arbor. "Many are season ticket holders who can find their seats without help," says Martha. "The Performance Network and Purple Rose draw audiences from farther afield. It's not unusual to have patrons from . . . Detroit's northern suburbs at Performance Network, and I've met people from New York and Chicago who have come to see theater in Chelsea."

There have been changes in the wind, however. In recent years UMS has been targeting new markets, expanding its offerings of Latin music and jazz to appeal to younger, more diverse crowds. Many of these patrons do not fit the traditional concertgoer profile—and many of them aren't attuned to the expectations of concert performers.

"Technology is not an usher's friend," says Martha, who, ironically, has a day job as a manager of information technology products at the university. "These days you always have to deal with cell phones, and some people just don't have good

manners. other direction in culture. UMS has the most professional photographers, performers, and charged with them. "We it, but it's where the from in a Martha. On a noyances, audience high. The ushers is ets (an c rence, o glitch) and tickets. P ed to the firmation people w the wron that ushe orientation "These UMS's D disrupted but some disruption Gordon ator of v Performa calls one seating p lowed, b hagen in We were a way throu Policie widely be Shakespea The Temp the first s storm scen ple for th Joyce Ger Coughi view at U dience cou plays than Joyce. Ide to stifle th music, bu and many been maki phlegmatic many UM cough dro point had den's bra wrapped in after the s stopped de and UMS drop spons At rock one worrie noted for t tivity isn't stage. Loca place at the special per in the lobb twenty-one

manners." Cameras add another dimension of frustration in crowd management. UMS has agreements with most performers barring photography during performances, and ushers are charged with enforcing them. "We are vigilant about it, but it's often hard to see where the flash is coming from in a darkened theater," Martha admits.

On ushers' lists of annoyances, late arrivals by audience members rank high. The consensus among ushers is that duplicate tickets (an occasional occurrence, often the result of a computer glitch) are a bigger nuisance than missing tickets. Patrons without tickets are directed to the box office for an electronic confirmation. Broken seats, noisy seats, and people who bypass the ushers—and sit in the wrong seats—are other headaches that ushers are trained to handle in their orientation.

"These can be sensitive issues," says UMS's Davidson. "If patrons are already disrupted the usher might as well interfere, but some ushers hesitate to create more disruption."

Gordon White, who worked as coordinator of volunteers and special events at Performance Network for five years, recalls one ingenious solution to the late-seating problem. "Officially it is not allowed, but when we presented *Copenhagen* in 2003, we had seating onstage. We were able to sneak late arrivals in that way through the backstage door."

Policies on latecomer seating vary widely between events. "For the Royal Shakespeare Company's performances of *The Tempest* we could seat people during the first six minutes, but then, once the storm scene started, we couldn't seat people for the next twenty minutes," says Joyce Gerber.

Coughing is currently under serious review at UMS. "It is a given that every audience coughs, though it is less critical in plays than in musical performances," says Joyce. Ideally, most concertgoers will try to stifle their coughs until a pause in the music, but UMS, Performance Network, and many other Ann Arbor presenters have been making free cough drops available to phlegmatic patrons. Pfizer, which sponsors many UMS events, had been donating cough drops for many years and at one point had switched from Halls to its Luden's brand, which are individually wrapped in plastic. "It became a lot noisier after the switch," Davidson says. Pfizer stopped donating cough drops last year, and UMS is now seeking a new cough drop sponsor.

At rock concerts, on the other hand, no one worries about coughing. Rockers are noted for their energy level—and the activity isn't limited to the performers onstage. Locally, many of these concerts take place at the Michigan Theater, which has a special permit to sell alcoholic beverages in the lobby before events to patrons age twenty-one and over. Alcohol consump-



UMS front-of-the-house coordinator Suzanne Davidson leads role-playing training sessions where new ushers learn what to do about seat switchers, coughers, and ringing cell phones.

tion, combined with the vigor of young audiences, puts ushers through another set of challenges. Often, more ushers are needed to guard the stage and the exit doors. Paul Bhatia still recalls the first rock concert he and Martha ushered—not the performer ("They all blend into one," Martha says) but the crowd, who stood for the entire show.

"There's continuous movement," says Joyce Gerber. "People are usually hanging around outside the theater during the warm-up act and then straggle in for the main event. It's in-and-out, in-and-out throughout the show. At one Melissa Etheridge concert there was a tremendous amount of seat switching, but the kids were very laid back about it. No one minded when we asked them to move."

Many younger volunteers move on after finishing degrees. About seventy-five are replaced each year on UMS's roster, mostly students, but the core of dedicated locals carries on year after year.

Steve Gerber recalls some uneasiness about ushering when he first signed up—that patrons would think "What's the matter? Can't he afford to buy a ticket?" But he sees his role much differently now. "Many people see it as a giving-back experience," says Gerber, an electrical engineer at Ford who volunteers on the boards of several Ann Arbor organizations.

In fact, some are willing to give back more than free service. At Performance Network, says Gordon White, "several of our ushers can afford to see plays routinely in New York or London, and they have given us donations that are worth more than a subscription series."

Monetary compensation might bring a few more trappings of professionalism, the volunteers say, but there would be downsides, too. "If we were paid, there might be an ushers' manual, but we couldn't switch our schedules with substitutes as easily as we do, and ticket prices would probably be higher," says Martha Bhatia. "Ann Arbor is about volunteering. The volunteer aspect makes it 'Ann Arbor.'"

And though Ann Arbor's emphasis on volunteering sets it apart from New York, other cities go even farther down the parsimonious path. "In Chicago," reports Paul Bhatia, "you pay to usher."

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SHOCK PUNDIT

CONSERVATIVE ICON ANN COULTER GOT HER START AT THE LIBERAL U-M LAW SCHOOL.

by James Militzer

When Ann Coulter took the stage at this year's Conservative Political Action Conference, her audience knew what to expect. She'd made headlines the previous year by joking about killing Bill Clinton and by referring to Arabs as "rag-heads"; the activists in attendance were primed for another dose of conservative red meat. And Coulter came through. "I was going to have a few comments on the other Democratic presidential candidate, John Edwards," she said with a smirk. "But it turns out that you have to go into rehab if you use the word *faggot*."

Coulter has built a career on her unrelenting animosity toward the left, and in the process she's become a conservative icon—and a cultural phenomenon. Yet twenty years ago, she was just another U-M Law School student, pinching pennies and lounging on the Diag.

Is her current celebrity a credit to the school or a dreadful disappointment? That depends on whom you ask.

Terrance Sandalow was dean of the Law School when Coulter studied there. Though he has "only a dim memory" of her as a student, he says, "I saw none of the qualities that have brought her fame in subsequent years. I don't follow her shameful writing very much, but I've seen enough of it and of her on TV to know that in her case the Law School failed to achieve its educational goals." Which goals? "For example, a respect for facts and avoiding overgeneralizations. My impression of her is that she's irresponsible. She engages in vitriol, not reasoned argument about anything."

Though no one can deny that Coulter has made her mark in the world, "I'm disappointed in her," Sandalow says. "I'd be disappointed in anyone who engages in this kind of behavior. It's just not the kind of behavior we expect of people. I don't have the slightest idea whether she's sincere in what she says or whether she's decided that this is a good way to make a buck. I've seen both suggested, and I have no way of judging which is true. But I consider her to be sort of nuts."

Douglas Kahn, a professor of tax law at the U-M, couldn't disagree more. An outspoken conservative himself, he was a sort of mentor for Coulter during her tenure at Michigan, where she was an editor of the *Michigan Law Review* and cofounded a local branch of the conservative/libertarian Federalist Society.

"I got to know her primarily because she was involved with the Federalist Society here, and I was their faculty advisor at that time," Kahn says. "So she came and chatted with me from time to time. I found her basically sound and, I think, sensible." He smiles and shrugs slightly. "The way she puts things today might very well lead you to feel that she's an extremist. But I don't really think she is. I think she's quite smart, and I think she has a foundation for what she's saying.

Now maybe she puts it too strongly, or a little over the top, but that's partly to get attention. I mean, if you said things in a very measured, scholarly way, no one would listen to you—aside from maybe a few scholars. You wouldn't be on television, I can tell you that—because that's not what the media wants. They want something that excites, that gets people talking."

He laughs. "I wouldn't necessarily want you to publish this, but when Ann was here, I'd say that she was not as glamorous looking as I've seen her on television. She was certainly a pleasant-looking young woman, but the first time I saw her on TV, I didn't know who it was. I remember seeing this striking blond, and after a while I realized that it was Ann. I think that's probably another part of the game: if you don't look right, you don't get on TV either."

Even as a student, Kahn recalls, Coulter "liked controversy." And as a vocal conservative on a liberal campus, she invited it. "Conservatives here are a significant minority," Kahn says. "But most of them, frankly, are silenced.

ANN COULTER

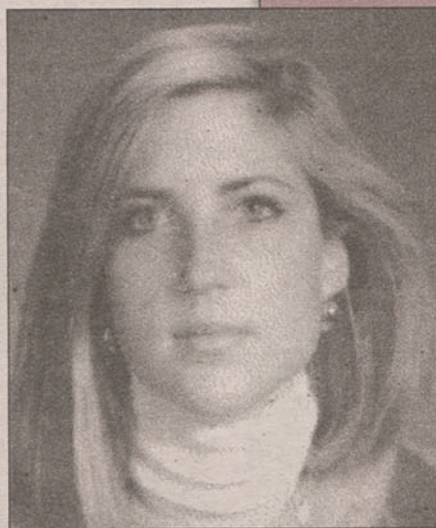
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Those who knew Coulter as a law student (left, in 1985) say that even then, she was an outspoken conservative who enjoyed controversy and had a dark sense of humor. But a liberal friend says the old Coulter could also appreciate an opposing view: "Ann wasn't nearly as strident then as she is now. She's become more and more shrill."



"For instance, if you speak out against affirmative action, you're going to get some people angry with you. I

views has become accepted by the intellectual community."

I ask Kahn whether he thinks Coulter was radicalized by the U-M's politically correct environment. He laughs. "I'm sure she felt the pressure. I just don't think it had any effect!" As we say good-bye, he says, "I hope you'll get a chance to meet Ann. You'll find her engaging. She's actually quite charming. And I'm sure she'll give you some interesting quotes."

happen to be against affirmative action, opposed to the university's position. And I've been accused, by some kids, of being a racist because I feel that way." He shakes his head. "There have always been taboo issues, but it seems like in recent times they have grown. In fact, I grew up in the McCarthy period, which I thought was atrocious, and I think this is worse."

I ask him to repeat that. Campus political correctness is worse than McCarthyism? "Yeah. During the McCarthy period it was the left being silenced, and now it's the conservatives who are silenced in the university setting. And the reason I think it's worse is that it's accepted by the intelligentsia. In other ways, it's obviously not as bad. Back then there were people losing their jobs, being blacklisted... but it does trouble me that this intolerance to other

I'm not so sure myself. It took me six tries just to reach her publicist, who's busy promoting Coulter's latest book, *Godless: The Church of Liberalism*. The publicist said Ann was willing to be interviewed—but that was weeks ago. When I call her again, the news is bad. "Ann's probably not going to have time to talk with you until she's done promoting the book," the publicist now says, shortly. "Try calling back in a few weeks."

While I wait, I call some of Coulter's fellow editors of the *Michigan Law Re-*



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SHOCK PUNDIT

continued

view. "I'd rather not get involved," one says, laughing nervously. "I'd prefer to stay above the fray," says another, with the same nervous laugh. But finally I reach Melissa H. Maxman, partner and head of antitrust practice at Baker Hostetler in Washington, D.C. She doesn't shy away from commenting on Coulter—and she seems to have known her well.

"We were in the same class back in law school," Maxman recalls. "I got to know her on the law review. I can't say she was my best friend, but we were good friends for four or five years—though we lost touch when she became famous." Appropriately enough, politics brought them together. "She was an outspoken conservative and I was an outspoken liberal," she says. "I heard people talking about her before I got to know her—she had a reputation for being very vocal in class about her conservative views. But we became friendly anyway. She's very, very funny. And I shared her macabre sense of humor." Maxman laughs. "You know, when people find out that I was friends with her in law school, they can't believe it, because I'm a big Democrat—I even ran for office. But it was because we respected each other's right to disagree. In law school you're learning how to debate, and I think that the process of debating each other was helpful to us both. She exposed me to some ideas that I hadn't been exposed to before. Of course, we didn't agree with each other on anything—I thought she was a right-wing



Former Law School dean Terrance Sandalow says Coulter uses vitriol in place of well-reasoned argument: "I consider her to be sort of nuts."

crazy, and she thought I was a left-wing nut. But we could appreciate the other's point of view."

Ann Coulter? Appreciating a liberal's point of view? "Ann wasn't nearly as strident then as she is now. She was much more muted back then," Maxman explains. "And that's the part that troubles me—she's become more and more shrill. I mean, some of the stuff I read now, I can't believe she said it." She mentions some passages in Coulter's new book, in which she accuses a group of 9/11 widows who'd been critical of President Bush of "enjoying their husbands' deaths."

Maxman insists that her friend Ann wasn't like that: "Knowing the Ann I knew years ago, I can't believe that she actually believes the things she says. When I read her, I think she must be joking and people are misinterpreting her, because she really does have a terrific sense of humor. She's very quick witted and acerbic. But if you don't know she's joking, you could be taken aback. And I think maybe people are taking her more seriously than she takes herself." Maxman pauses. "But I do think people's feelings get hurt. And that's unfortunate, because I don't think she's the type of person who would intentionally want to hurt people. I mean, she's not a cruel person."

Maybe not, but for some reason the punch lines of her jokes tend to involve the deaths of her political opponents. Coulter's greatest hits include advocating a nuclear attack on North Korea, call-



U-M law prof Douglas Kahn thinks his former student is charming and smart—smart enough to grab attention with extremist sound bites.

ing for the Supreme Court would target countries, them to Clinton. If Coulter has any idea how a conservative friend asking how and she was raised. "But the smoked and rock 'n' roll about her these prog types."

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ing for the assassination of a liberal Supreme Court justice, wishing terrorists would target the *New York Times*, and calling for the United States to invade Muslim countries, "kill their leaders, and convert them to Christianity."

If Coulter is joking, does Maxman have any idea how her funny, tolerant conservative friend got to be so harsh? "I remember asking how she ended up so conservative, and she said it was because of the way she was raised," she says, sounding uncertain. "But the Ann I knew privately chain-smoked and dated Democrats and liked rock 'n' roll. In fact, I used to tease her about her taste in men. She always liked these progressive, good-looking musician types."

Though many prominent Republicans distanced themselves from her comments about John Edwards, Coulter inspires passionate devotion among her fellow conservatives. When I call the Washtenaw County Republican Party for some comments on her, they refer me to Dave Adamson, a local party activist. "Ann is our bomb thrower," he says, his voice overflowing with enthusiasm. "She's our Michael Moore, you know? She's wonderful. We all love her." But surprisingly, he says that most local conservatives have no idea she's linked to Ann Arbor. "I think if you asked them, ninety percent of Republicans in Washtenaw County wouldn't know that she went to school here. The university is kind of alien to us. It isn't a big thing to us to be connected to it. But she went there. I feel sorry for that, but she survived."

I ask Adamson whether he thinks Coulter would have turned out differently if she had gone to a conservative school.

He pauses to think. "Well, I bet she wouldn't be as much of a bomb thrower as she is. If she had gone to a conservative college, she wouldn't be as outraged as she is."

I run a brief list of Coulter's more outlandish comments past him—in which she advocates televised torture, carpet bombing of Muslim countries, and beating liberals with a baseball bat. Adamson laughs uproariously. So does that mean he takes it all as a joke? "Are you kidding me?" he shouts. "Of course she's joking."

"See, we have a sense of humor. You guys don't. Nobody in their right mind would think that she was serious, because it's obvious to normal people. Now, there aren't a lot of normal people on the left. So you take these quotes and say, 'Look what she said!' And we just think it's outrageously funny that you guys take it seriously."

So every inflammatory thing Coulter says should be taken as humor? He stops laughing. "Of course the things she says are funny. They're outrageous—but they're kind of half true. Humor is not funny if there isn't some truth to it. And that's what Ann does so well."

He's right, of course—Coulter walks a fine line between humor and hate, and that's the root of the question I'm dying to ask her. Coulter herself has been consistently coy about whether she means the

things she says literally. When she's taken to task for an offensive remark, her standard response is to declare that she was obviously joking and accuse her opponents of lacking a sense of humor. Yet she often follows that accusation by amplifying the remark that originally caused the offense. For instance, when asked whether she regretted her comment about wishing terrorists had destroyed the *New York Times*-building, she replied, "Of course I regret it. I should have added 'after everyone had left the building except the editors and the reporters.'" Her critics are left wondering whether this is yet another joke that they're too humorless to appreciate, or a sly insinuation—understood by her followers—that she was serious all along.

And perhaps that's the secret of Coulter's success. She validates the dark underside of conservative belief—without openly taking ownership of it. She uses humor as an escape hatch, and the more she gets away with, the more her fans love her. But in talking to local conservatives, I catch a glimpse of a deeper reason for her appeal. Coulter provides an outlet for her followers' indignation while reinforcing the assumption behind it: that conservatives are victims of an entrenched liberal establishment. Seen from this perspective, her words and her very presence serve as a sort of battle flag for conservatives—a symbol of tribal unity. Her attacks become acts of heroic defiance, exempt from the standards of traditional political discourse.

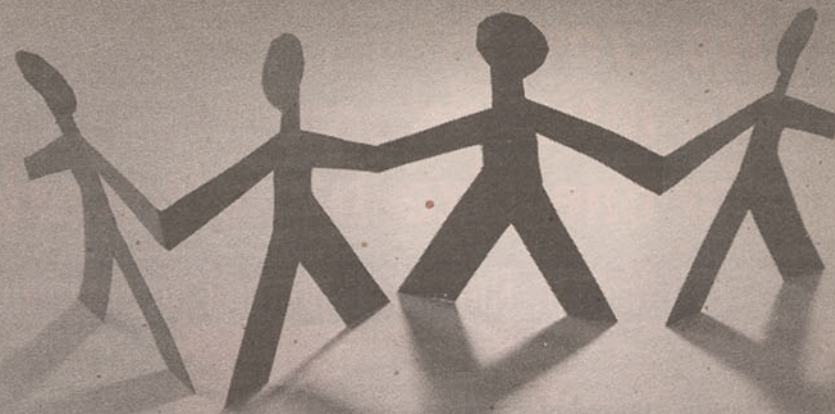
I call Coulter's publicist one more time. To my surprise, her characteristic impatience is gone; she sounds almost happy to hear from me. I ask her if Ann's still willing to be interviewed. "As of next week, I won't be employed by Ann anymore," she says. "Now that the book rush is over, Ann's taking some time off, and she's not going to use a publicist for the foreseeable future—probably until her next book comes out." I express my condolences, but she doesn't sound very upset. So I ask her whether there's any way I can still get my questions through to Ann—even if we don't meet in person. She's very obliging: "If you can send me an email by the end of the week, I'll see that she gets it."

It takes me some time, but I succeed in squeezing everything I've wanted to ask Coulter into ten simple questions, which range from her memories of Ann Arbor to the sources of her rage. My final question ends, "Do you mean the things you say, or are you just doing it to sell books and get attention? If it's the latter, do you ever wonder if you've taken the act too far?"

Coulter doesn't reply.

"She likes being controversial, and I think she's doing it for a purpose," says her onetime friend Melissa Maxman. "She's very shrewd, and it sells books. It's kind of akin to what Howard Stern does—she's like a shock pundit."

"She enjoys the idea of stirring up a debate. And if she says something outrageous to get the debate going, you know, so what? It's not a popularity contest. And if it is a popularity contest, and you measure it in dollars—she's winning."



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Waxing Moon

Behind Ann Arbor's bikini lines

by Sally Mitani

Let's start with a quiz. Spreading molten wax over the entire genital region in order to rip out the pubic hair by the roots is:

- A practice recently discontinued at Guantánamo.
- A practice still allowed at Guantánamo.
- A scene from the director's cut of *Marat/Sade*.
- A "Brazilian wax," available locally for \$35 and up.

If you're under thirty, you probably guessed correctly that this is a description of a Brazilian bikini wax. If you're over

fifty, it might be news to you that waxing it all off is a popular look for women, enthusiastically endorsed by celebrities and fashion mavericks.

The Brazilian bikini wax isn't all that new. Its most famous ambassadors are the "J Sisters," seven sisters from Brazil whose first names all begin with J, who opened their eponymous salon in New York in 1989. Culture watchers typically date the meeting of the Brazilian wax and Middle America to an episode of *Sex and the City* on September 17, 2000, in which the character Carrie Bradshaw goes in for a bikini wax and to her surprise finds that she has "been to Brazil," as the episode coyly refers to it. Jennifer Aniston's character has one in the 2006 movie *The Break-Up*. Then there are, of course, the celebrities themselves: Kirstie Alley, Demi Moore, Jennifer Grey, Gwyneth Paltrow, with her usual infallible knack for speak-

ing with the vox populi, raved that Brazilian waxes "changed my life."

At any rate, if you're headed for a beach this spring, you're going to look like a Neanderthal if you don't have a bikini wax of some sort. According to the body-waxing establishments in Ann Arbor, business begins to boom in mid-February, shortly before U-M's winter (traditionally and inaccurately called "spring") break, and all salons interviewed for this article said that about half of the bikini waxes they do these days are the Brazilian type.

Bikini versus Brazilian

But let's back up a minute. Returning to that over-fifty demographic, some of you are probably still wondering about bikini waxes, and when they became part of the female beauty regime.

Some holdouts from 1970s Ann Arbor may not have noticed that women have gradually become less hirsute. You can still catch a glimpse of hairy-legged, hairy-armed women at the People's Food Co-op, La Leche League meetings, or Pickerel Lake in the summertime, but most Ann Arbor women have long been removing those secondary sexual characteristics. Over the last quarter century, says Debra Berman, assistant director of Bellanina Institute, the look has been moving toward hairless androgyny for both men and women. Increasingly, men shave or wax chest and back hair, and women pluck, shave, or wax eyebrows and bikini lines.

You don't need to be a sociologist to know that looking good in a bikini is not as highly prized in Ann Arbor as it is in, for instance, Miami or Dallas. But even in Ann Arbor, if you look around pools and health clubs, you'll probably find that the majority of women now practice some sort of depilation around their bathing suit lines.

The bikini wax, which usually costs \$25 to \$35 and neatens up the outer edges of groinal muff, has been popular for

many years now, says Pam Fick of Pamela's Waxing, especially "for real hairy girls who couldn't get it stuffed into their bathing suits." Women often start out servicing themselves with razors or chemical depilatories and then find that waxing is quicker and lasts longer. It's temporarily painful, however, and adds another \$30 a month or so to your beauty budget.

While bikini waxing is about an idealized natural look, the Brazilian goes far beyond any possible interpretation of natural. The Brazilian removes hair from the labia and from the anal area. It's more painful and more expensive than a bikini wax, and requires an intimacy arguably even more profound than that between woman and gynecologist. Brazilian women, like Ana Pinheiro and her sister Claudia (more about them later), will tell you that it started as, and still is for them, simply a pragmatic response to smaller and smaller bikinis and thong underwear. But you don't need to get too deeply into the online blogs and articles to find that Brazilian waxes have developed a wickedly erotic cachet—although I could get only one Ann Arborite to confess to a fascination with the edgy sexuality of it, and he (an observer, not a participant) was a European. Ann Arbor, in that respect, seems to remain a deeply natural town. People wax not to be unnatural, but because it's become the new version of natural.

So many salons in Ann Arbor offer Brazilians that I gave up trying to count them all. Of the dozen or so businesses listed in the Spas section of the Yellow Pages, I learned that most (though not all) of the places that do bikini waxes also do Brazilians. But a surprising number of regular beauty salons do too; when I learned that Salon in the City, on Washington, doesn't even have a Yellow Pages listing and yet offers complete waxing facilities, including Brazilians, I gave up. Maureen English, a beauty operator at Salon in the



Marissa has been waxing since she was sixteen and has been having Brazilians for the last year or so. She never misses a beat of her end of the conversation, which is punctuated by the rhythmic, ripping sound of hair being pulled out by the roots.

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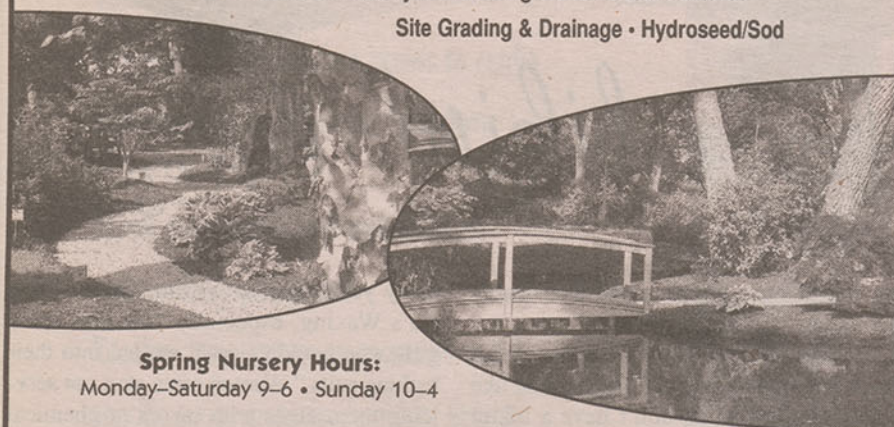
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Waxing Moon

continued

City, says the phrase used in the trade is "full-service salon": any place advertising itself as such will probably, these days, offer Brazilians.

All salons I talked to agreed that Brazilians take some special techniques and training, not to mention a special bedside manner. But the medical aspects are not quite as dire as you might imagine. Dr. Susan Ernst, director of gynecological services at the University Health Service, says she occasionally treats problems related to pubic hair removal: razor burns, ingrown

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PHOTO SALLY MITANI

It's hard to find an older man who's even heard of Brazilians, and harder to find one who wants to see one. But a forty-year-old man says, "I like it. It's as if the woman is saying, 'I thought of this, and I did it for you.'"

hairs, and contact dermatitis from allergy to waxes or chemical depilatories. The other problem she's seen is folliculitis, an infection of the hair follicles that can result from ripping out hairs by the roots. Ernst, who sees primarily women in their twenties and thirties, says her rough impression is that most of her patients seem to do some sort of genital hair removal, but she doesn't know how much of that is done by salons and how much is self-inflicted.

A Brazilian by a Brazilian

Ana Banana is a funky secondhand clothing shop upstairs on South University, owned by identical Brazilian twins Claudia and Ana Pinheiro. Dark-eyed, graceful women in their mid-thirties, they came here ten years ago when their mother married a U.S. citizen. They seem perpetually poised to break into a samba, as they were doing when I met them in January. They had just heard that Gilberto Gil, a guitarist from Bahia, their own region of Brazil, was coming to Hill Auditorium in March. If you want to get into the Brazilian spirit, Ana's is the place to go.

Ana is a licensed esthetician; she trained at Brighton Institute of Cosmetology a few years ago. (In Michigan waxing can be done by either a licensed cosmetologist or a licensed esthetician: cosmetology licenses take more training but tend to focus very little on waxing.) She used to

do only house calls, but now she's fixed up a tiny room in the back of the store where she gives waxes after hours. In the land of the thong bikini, where she grew up, waxing is a normal part of womanly grooming, and waxing businesses are ubiquitous. "Lots of people, especially near beaches, do it in the back of their houses. It's not a big deal. You're walking down the street with your friends and you decide to stop and get waxed. Some people here overcharge," she says. She keeps her prices down—a Brazilian is \$35—to encourage women to do it regularly.

Lauren, a graduate student in her twenties, is here for her first Brazilian wax. She isn't particularly willing to articulate on record exactly why she wants a Brazilian. Like most women her age, she has had bikini waxes in the past, though her grad student budget prevents her from doing it regularly; these days she just trims herself with a razor. Ana has told her in advance to clip her pubic hair to a quarter inch. Lauren strips down to thong underwear and lies down on the table. Ana pulls on a pair of latex gloves and surveys the scene, remarking that in general, fair hair comes out more easily. This is bad news for Lauren.

Ana starts with the hair closest to the belly button, where you'd think the skin, after years of rubbing against blue jeans, would be the most toughened. Using a wooden stick, she spreads on the wax, a warm liquid that has the consistency of

caramel sauce. She pulls it off, and wax comes off in a small, pale and her to take too late. She

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Marissa her twentie was sixteen ians for the clothing an onto Ildiko Marissa say We have a little liquid will not co Ildiko is Hu red lipstick

caramel sauce. She presses onto it a strip of paper like a coffee filter, and rips paper and wax off quickly. Not all the hair comes off, but where the hair did come off, small dots of blood appear. Lauren pales and remembers that people have told her to take an Advil beforehand. Now it's too late. She takes a Valium.

Everyone says that the first waxing is the worst. After that, it's as if the mistreated hair follicles go on strike, for it's universally acknowledged that postwax regrowth is thinner and softer. After finishing the most visible hair, Ana begins lifting Lauren's legs and coaching her into other positions generally associated with the less common sex acts. Fortunately, the farther away from the belly button she moves, the less painful things get. After a while, Ana says, "Is that enough? Or do you want more?" Lauren, now slightly drugged on Valium, has little sense of what is done or undone but groggily agrees with Ana that it's time for it to be over.

Surprisingly, Ana now mentions that she doesn't usually do the labia, even though it was our understanding that this was by definition what distinguishes a Brazilian from a plain bikini wax. But are you going to argue with a Brazilian about this? Ana dabs Lauren with a soothing lotion. "For the next twenty-four hours, don't sweat," she tells her. "I mean don't exercise," she amends when she sees Lauren's startled look. "It will make you sweat and possibly cause a rash."

At this point it's hard to see the beauty of a Brazilian wax, even if one appreciates the hairless look. Lauren's skin is red, dotted with blood, and looks rather wrinkled and chapped, like the skin of a baby with diaper rash.

Waxed in a spa

If any place could make the experience of waxing itself pleasant, it would be Bellanina. The Bellanina Institute is an expensive full-service salon and day spa in a location that seems almost intentionally humorous: across from the People's Food Co-op and next door to Fourth Ave Birkenstock, those bastions of the old hairy, holistic Ann Arbor. Bellanina offers high-end and medical-sounding spa exotica like ultrasound facials and Shio Doro anticellulite treatments, and even breast lymph drainage treatment, all in the low-lit, fragrant ambience of a geisha house. Brazilian waxes at Bellanina are high for Ann Arbor, starting at \$50, but they're one of the less expensive procedures Bellanina offers. (In the general scheme of things, Ann Arbor is a great place to have a Brazilian wax: in most big cities they cost twice as much.)

Marissa, another graduate student in her twenties, has been waxing since she was sixteen and has been having Brazilians for the last year or so. She drops her clothing and climbs unselfconsciously onto Ildiko Benyak's table. "I'm Polish," Marissa says. "We Eastern Europeans wax. We have a lot of hair." Ildiko smoothes a little liquid on Marissa's labia: "Oil, so skin will not come off with wax," she says. Ildiko is Hungarian, a glamorous blond in red lipstick with a Borat-like accent.

Marissa and Ildiko are talkers and laughers who try to top each other's stories about waxing; Ildiko, of course, has more, but Marissa has her share. They trade tales about waxes gone bad, and about culture clashes between waxers and nonwaxers—like the client whose gynecologist, an Indian woman, had never seen a Brazilian before and screamed at the sight.

Marissa never misses a beat of her end of the conversation, which is punctuated by the rhythmic ripping sound of hair being pulled out by the roots.

At Bellanina two kinds of wax are used, the gooey wax Ana uses and a "hard wax" for the labia. Hard wax looks and feels the same when applied, but it dries to the consistency of candle wax and, supposedly, pulls off with less damage to the tender tissue.

The whole thing is over in about twenty minutes. Marissa's labia are bare as a newborn's—though, unlike a newborn, she's dotted with pinpricks of blood. Ildiko didn't seem to be quite as attentive to the anal region as Ana Pinheiro, however. Ildiko applies a lotion and tells her client not to have sex for twenty-four hours. Marissa throws her clothes on quickly and hikes off to a full day of classes.

The Patron saint of waxing

About five weeks after Lauren's wax at Ana's, she is ready to try again—this time at Pamela's. If Ann Arbor has a patron saint of waxing, it is surely Pam Fick, a buxom, energetic redhead who at age sixty has just taken up tennis. Forty years ago, when she was getting her training at the long-defunct Preston's Beauty Academy on Jackson Road, "there was a woman who had hair all over her body from a hormone disorder," Pam recalls. "They asked for volunteers to wax her, and I said, 'I'll do it.' Back then we used a wax roller. It was awful. Hair would get caught in there. I did her entire body, every five or six weeks."

From there, Pam became Ann Arbor's first Brazilian waxer. "Thirty years ago," she finally decides, is the most conservative date; though it's possible she's been doing it for as many as thirty-five years. She was working at Charisma, on Liberty, just a few blocks up the street from her current salon, and was doing the hair of three Brazilian women whose husbands were students at the university. "One day they came in and asked me if I would do a Brazilian wax. I said, 'If you tell me what to do, I'll do it.'"

The women taught her everything they knew, and she went on from there. Though Pam has a frank and easygoing manner about her specialty, she's studied it seriously, seeking advice from doctors and nurses and inventing a technique that makes it less painful (which I was allowed to observe but not write about). She makes her employees sign a contract saying they will not do waxing at any other establishment.

"I used to go to the sororities: Chi O, Tri Delt, SDT, KKG," Pam says. "I'd bring my table, two pots of wax, and line 'em up." Six years ago she opened her own full-service salon and day spa on Lib-

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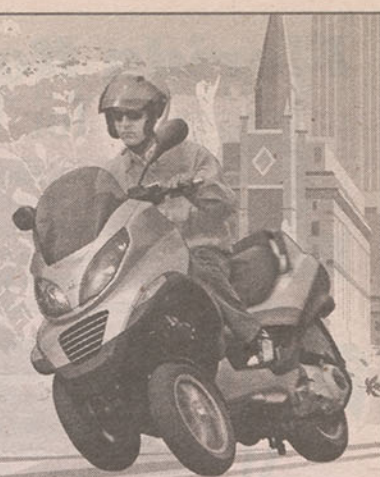
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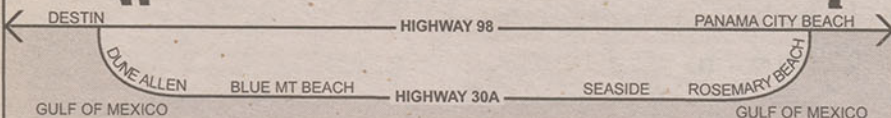
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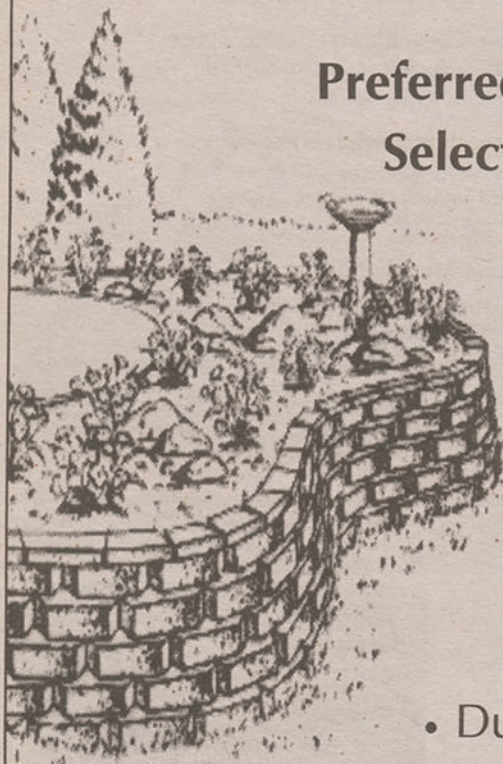


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Waxing Moon

continued

erty, and now the sisters come to her. "If you come here in mid-February, right before spring break, you'll see them lined up on the street," she promises. Even in the slow season, mid-January, Pam looks in her appointment book and counts that in one day she did twenty-five bikini waxes, fourteen of them Brazilian.

Until recently, if you made an appointment at Pam's for a Brazilian you were sure to get Pam herself, but she's recently hired Sandy Sheldon to help out with them—though Sandy, Pam says, "doesn't do Wipeouts. I think I'm the only person in Ann Arbor who does Wipeouts."

The Wipeout, according to a cheerfully direct sign on the wall, costs \$45 and includes the perianal area. A regular Brazilian is \$5 cheaper, "butt not included." Lauren has opted to go for a Wipeout.

As soon as Lau-



SALLY MITANI

Where the hair comes off, small dots of blood appear. Lauren pales and remembers that people have told her to take an Advil beforehand. Now it's too late. She takes a Valium.

ren lies down on the table, she realizes she has once again forgotten to take an Advil. Pam tells her it will all be over so quickly, there's no point in taking one now. And Pam is fast—speed and cleanliness, she says, are about the most important attributes in a waxer. Her clients are "in and out in twenty minutes for a complete Brazilian, and that includes dress time," she says.

Pam demonstrates her trade-secret procedure, which seems simple and effective. The hair comes off easily—though, again, not without some blood. "Don't worry about it," Pam says. "It's just from the follicle. You rip out the hair by the follicle, and a little blood comes out with it." She adds, "You might have noticed I'm not shy with my hands. I don't wear gloves. I wash my hands well in really hot water first."

When it's over (it takes slightly longer than twenty minutes, but Pam has stopped frequently to answer questions and comply with photographic demands), she applies some lotion and advises Lauren to buy a product called No Bump that prevents ingrown hair. Like the other waxers, she proscribes an activity for twenty-four

hours: in this case, though, it's not exercise or sex, but sunbathing. She says the newly exposed skin will burn easily.

Why Wax?

Why do people want to remove all of their pubic hair? In a roundtable discussion, the five waxers at Bellanina kick the question around. The first and undoubtedly truest answer is the proximate reason: because it's the style. In the beauty business, trends needn't be questioned too deeply if they're as lucrative as this one. But slowly the waxers begin to describe other reasons, which their clients have either articulated or implied. "Tidiness," says Leslie, smiling that she thought of so frumpy a word for such a racy topic.

People like to feel tidy down there, especially after sex or during that time of the month." Another waxer points out that clothes have simply gotten skimpier and people have found it necessary. She says she recently waxed a woman who was going to be wearing such a clingy dress that she didn't want

to wear underwear, so that she needed a full wax of what would otherwise be under the underwear. Ildiko gives the funniest reason. She had a regular customer, a married woman in her forties, who came in so often, Ildiko remarked that her husband must really like it. The woman said no, he hated it so much he wouldn't touch her for days afterward—and that was why she did it.

Debra Berman, the assistant manager, is a generation older than most of her young staff, and has seen more fashion cycles come and go. She doesn't see bikini waxes as a particularly significant beauty trend, but she confesses she sometimes suspects that Brazilians have a dark side: "There's a certain type of woman—the kind who gets too many chemical peels is another example—I sometimes think they like to hurt themselves. There's a certain fascination with inflicting pain."

It's hard to find an older man who has even heard of Brazilians, and harder to find one who wants to see one. One fifty-eight-year-old man told me that any man who likes the look must have "pedophilia issues. Pubic hair is what distinguishes women from little girls."

"I don't want to hear about it," pleaded

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another fifty-two-year-old man halfway through the explanation of what a Brazilian was. "No!" shuddered another man, age fifty-seven. "No!"

But down the age scale, a forty-year-old man says, "Personally, I like it. It's as if the woman is saying, 'I thought of this, and I did it for you'—though I have nothing against a natural look either." This man is the European mentioned earlier, and he agrees there's almost a kind of prudery behind Ann Arbor's embracing of the trend: "I'm tempted to think that some Ann Arbor women get them because they're grossed out by their own body hair."

Or because someone else is. A thirty-one-year-old student admitted he found the idea of a natural bush "kind of disgusting," and approved of waxing: "The more, the better."

Men are not always mere observers of Brazilians. In the big fashion-trend cities, like New York and L.A., men get them. A few years ago, the forward-looking Debra Berman anticipated that Ann Arbor men would want them too, so she hired an expert to train Bellanina's waxers in the delicate art of male bikini waxing. But not only did the clients not appear, Berman had a difficult time even finding volunteers to practice on. A reluctant gay volunteer disabused her of the idea that it was a gay thing, saying it was actually for the young and the body proud. He steered her toward the frat houses, where he suspected she'd have more luck, but that didn't pan out either.

Lisa Friese, an esthetician at Fran Coy's, a large salon on Wagner Road, does five or six Brazilians a day and also has a regular male clientele (for back and chest hair); she doesn't quite agree with Berman's assessment that there's no male demand for Brazilians in Ann Arbor. In fact, she reports that she frequently gets requests to go below the belt. But she won't do it. "A lot of estheticians won't go there," she says. "You don't know what's going to happen down there when you peel it off."

As popular as the trend is, not all Ann Arbor women are having the complete treatment. One night the bartender at the Earle restaurant polled the three other women staff on duty, and none of them, in an age range from late twenties to late thirties, said she would ever consider a full Brazilian. Also weighing in from her seat at the bar was the soignée and stylish thirty-four-year-old Maureen English, who does hair at Salon in the City, where she could presumably get a good deal on one. She had never considered having a Brazilian either.

Since waxing is a trend, English pointed out, by definition it will eventually end. Perhaps it has already started to fall out of fashion—she mentioned a recent article in the cutting-edge style magazine *Jane* headlined "Bush Is Back."

So if you're one of those aging hippies and plan to sport a luxuriantly untrimmed mane under your bikini this summer at Pickerel Lake—you might be at the forefront of the newest trend.

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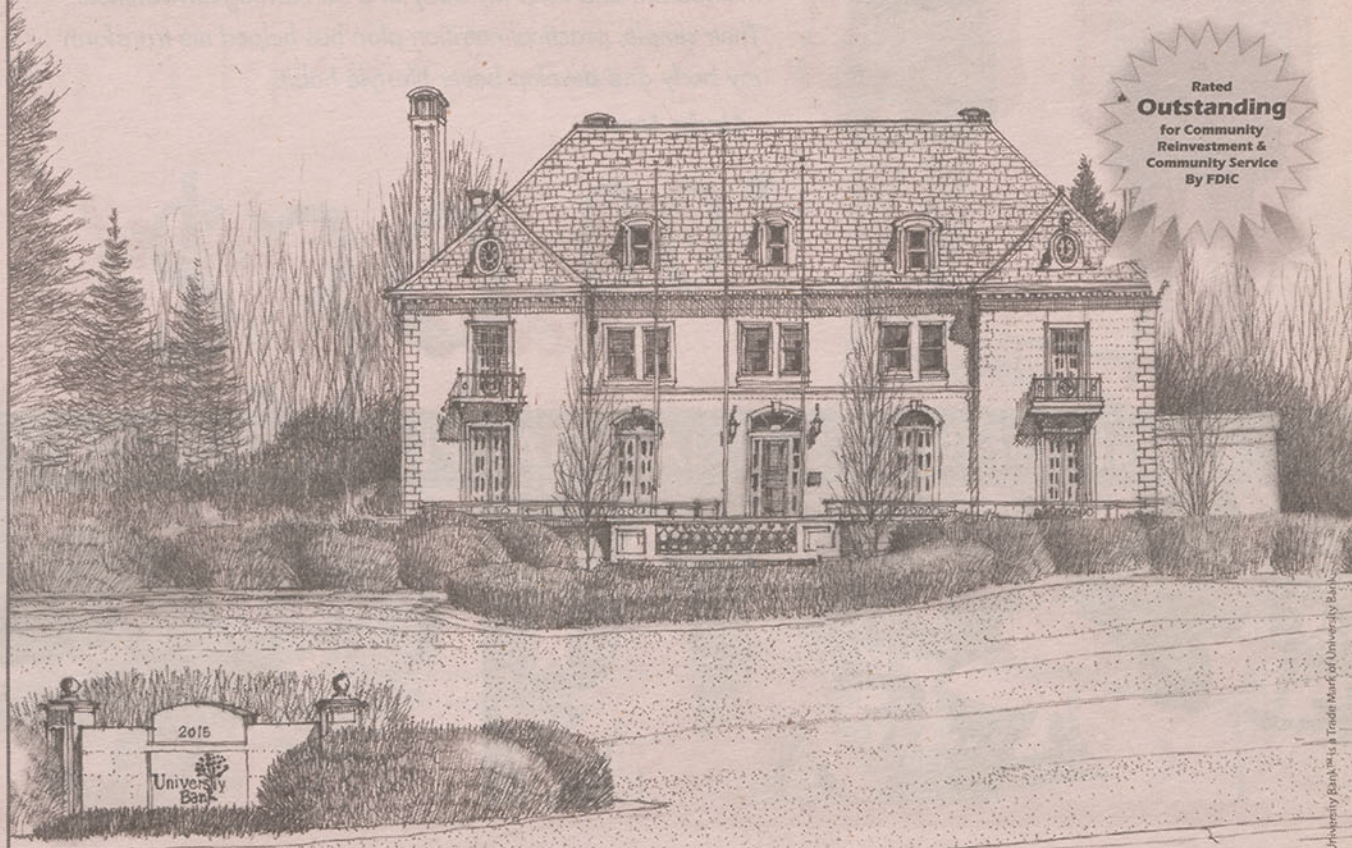
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Restaurant Reviews



JOHN COPLEY

Amadeus Old World

Amadeus may be the prettiest place to eat in Ann Arbor. The rough brick walls are festooned with faded musical instruments, very personal art, and an endless marching band of carved klezmer musicians. Mismatched chandeliers cast a soft light from the arabesque tin ceiling. Amadeus is the antithesis of those chains whose "funky" decor is assembled by consultants. It's a dreamy antique lace slip of a restaurant, lovely in a natural way and decorated from the heart.

Owner Pawel Strozynski, who emigrated from Poland twenty-five years ago, did stints in Vienna and Stockholm before arriving in Ann Arbor. With help from friends and family, he restored the handsome nineteenth-century building on East Washington near Fourth Avenue—a labor of love that took two years. "Time flies," Strozynski says, thinking back to the opening of his homey cafe nearly twenty years ago.

Much has changed in local dining since then, and even Amadeus is not the same. Perhaps it's the passing of that first wave—one of the original partners left six years ago, and Strozynski now runs it with nephew Bartek Koss. Perhaps it's a change in tastes—Asia has eclipsed Europe as the culinary inspiration of the moment. Yet there is still much good here, including many of the simple, old-fashioned dishes that are Amadeus's hallmark.

The rough climate of Central Europe is hospitable to cabbage, pork, and potatoes, and these three make frequent appearances at Amadeus. The seasonings here are often

subtle and northern, such as dill, but also include peppers, onion, and garlic. Hints of caraway enliven some dishes, and sauerkraut, made for the restaurant according to traditional Polish methods, adds the essential sour tang on many plates.

The staple paprika was introduced to Hungary by the Turks during Ottoman rule in the sixteenth century. Goulash, a paprika-rich beef stew, occurs in various forms around Amadeus's menu—

from a small cup over noodles at lunch to the "Hungarian pancakes" at dinner. The latter is a hearty affair—two potato pancakes smothered in goulash, topped with two more pancakes, and garnished with sour cream. The potato pancakes are unique locally, with an almost creamy texture inside and a lightly crisped exterior. Disappointed with my own choice, the chicken *paprikash*, I found myself sneaking pancakes and goulash from my friend's plate. The *paprikash* was, sadly, one of several dishes that felt lackluster to me—its sauce was on the watery side, and the paprika was more like a garnish than a central component. Another dinner companion's pork cutlet was done Wiener schnitzel style, pounded flat, breaded, and fried, but the accompaniments weren't right, at least not to my taste (schnitzel with mustard?). On the other hand, heavenly *kopytka*, airy potato dumplings, were perfect alongside the tender *bitki*, a braised pork fillet.

It's possible to defy the region's reputation for heavy food and go light here, particularly at lunch. Start with a bowl of vegetarian borscht, for example. Some cooks' versions of this are thick and garnished with sour cream. Amadeus's has the consistency of a consommé, balanced between sweet and sour, deeply fragrant, redolent of spices and beetroot. Or you might try the unusual dill pickle soup, a lightly creamy broth with julienne sour pickles and lots of fresh dill. Pair your soup with a small plate of pierogi, a pasta-like dough curled in a half-moon shape around fillings—choose from mushroom, sauerkraut, potato, ground pork, or sweet cheese—served sprinkled with toasted crumbs and garnished with sour cream.

The smoked salmon with potato pan-

cakes is a fine lunch choice—a pair of small pancakes topped with silky sliced salmon. Cold pickled herring is one of those love-it-or-hate-it dishes; mark me down as smitten. Amadeus serves the bite-size pieces of fish in thick cream with thin slices of onion, excellent with the house-baked rolls. Even the classic Sobieski *bigos*—long-simmered, deeply spiced sauerkraut with slices of kielbasa sausage—didn't come across as excessively heavy in the modest, lunch-size portion. Most lunch plates (and dinner entrees) come with the standard side salad of mixed lettuce, shredded carrots and radishes, and butter-milk dressing.

After one lazy lunch that stretched across an afternoon, our table of four indulged in the patisserie side of Amadeus. The adults opted for chocolate Amadeus coffee with a dollop of classic Viennese whipped cream on top. Our eight- and fourteen-year-old companions chose their cakes from the display case in the back. Amadeus no longer makes all of its own pastries, but the cakes are baked for it according to the cafe's recipes; they're still delicious. And the kitchen still produces Amadeus's best sweet, the napoleon—a wonderful wisp of puff pastry filled with a vanilla-flavored custard and garnished with fresh berries.

Set your watch on Old World; service can get backed up on Friday and Saturday evenings. Amadeus often seems short staffed on the floor. But even at lunch when one server was taking care of the entire restaurant, he was attentive and charming, serving pierogi to an eight-year-old "princess" with a flourish.

As you might guess from the name and the decor, music is important here—classical, of course, and live from a guitarist or pianist on Fridays and Saturdays. Then there's the clinking of glassware and the hum of conversation as well—this place sounds as pretty as it looks. It struck me after our second weekend dinner here that each time we had ended up in conversation with those at neighboring tables. That kind of conviviality cannot be contrived. ♦

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Restaurant Reviews continued



JOHN COPLEY

The Metro Cafe

Good start

Some locations just have bad restaurant juju. Take 303 Detroit Street. I keep trying to review the restaurants there, but before I can get these joints on the editorial schedule, they vanish.

Last November, the Metro Cafe moved into the space that started out as Sweet Lorraine's and was most recently Market-Place Grill. After giving it a little time to shake off the newness, I went on a solo exploratory lunch—and I do mean solo. I'd hoped to slide in and out unnoticed, but I was the only customer in the place. Though my food was only so-so, the scene, the service, and an oddly eclectic and intriguing menu had enough potential to warrant a second visit.

So back I went for dinner, this time with friends in tow. And that was again promising, so I went back, and took more friends. Everyone agreed: Metro is off to a pretty good start.

Begin with empanadas, surprisingly light, two-bite savory turnovers filled with sweet potato and ground sirloin and served with a smooth red-pepper coulis. The spring roll appetizers are delicious, too: deep-fried cylinders stuffed with vermicelli and shrimp and a citrusy sweet-hot dipping sauce. One night, four of us split the Brie appetizer—double-cream cheese baked in a pastry crust and served with wine-macerated cherries. It was no knockout, but it was pleasantly rich and warm (it didn't hurt that we were splitting a bottle of David Bruce Pinot Noir, decently priced at \$35). I was sorry to see Metro sign on to the state-fair fad for deep-fried mac-and-cheese; even a staff member warned us away from the "macaroni and cheese sticks."

Instead, keep looking just below the appetizer list at the half dozen or so small plates. These can do double duty as shared starters or as a main course—the ones I

sampled were enough food for an entree, especially if you add a starter or salad. They are also very well priced. The sesame tuna was excellent, perfectly cooked, with a seared, sesame-seed crust and rare middle. Served over buckwheat soba with a gingery vinaigrette, it's a real bargain at \$10. The roasted duck leg, tender though lacking the complexity of a long-cured "confit" (as it is called on the menu), is served with a maple-Dijon sauce and thin, crisp sweet-potato fries for \$9.

Even among the full-size plates, only three of nine entrees topped \$20, and then just barely. The least expensive (at \$15) is a fish and chips plate, a light beer batter crust over clean-tasting fresh white cod with hand-cut skin-on fries alongside. The scallops were lighter, but also very nicely prepared—seared with a deep golden crust and

plated with a buttery smoked-tomato sauce. The tawny *frites* surrounded a decent New York strip with herb butter; the meat was certainly not exceptional, but those same perfect chips made this one satisfying overall. On three dinner visits, the only major dud was a roasted pork chop. It was well conceived with maple glaze and chunky applesauce, but so overcooked it was dry as day-old bread.

Vegetarians have their own section of the menu. The portobello Wellington was richly satisfying—a juicy mushroom covered with a gooey layer of blue cheese and baked in puff pastry. This was served with a mound of mashers and crunchy, pencil-thin roasted asparagus. All entrees come with a house salad, but it's worth upgrading to the Caesar, which comes with crispy fried polenta "croutons."

Service was professional and attentive, but still new. One server, when asked if the vegetable tempura was good, replied, "I don't know. I don't like vegetables." Asked to describe a Pinot Noir offered by the glass, another responded that it had been their Valentine's Day special and it was red. However, the staff showed particular grace when they mixed up an order, which, I must admit, was confusingly rendered on our part. The server whisked away the wrong dish and returned reasonably quickly with the right one. After dinner, she apologized again and brought two desserts gratis—a warm chocolate cake with vanilla ice, and a deliciously sweet-savory creamy goat cheese with an almond-herb crust and a swirl of macerated strawberries. The latter, she explained, was only in the experimental stage. Though it needed minor tweaking, I'd still give it two thumbs up—one for the actual dish, the other for trying something inventive.

As good as Metro can be at dinner, the kitchen was much weaker at midday—at my first lunch, the duck and pear salad was no better than mediocre; at my second, a simple cheeseburger ordered medi-

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The Zingerman's Times

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April 2007

Printed in Ann Arbor

Land of a thousand flavors

Zingerman's Coffee Company Heads to Africa

Roaster's Pick

Zingerman's roastmaster Allen Liebowitz has made some startling discoveries in Africa starting with the Malawi Mapanga. Malawi is located in southeastern Africa, and "coffees in this region can vary wildly from year to year," notes Liebowitz. "But one of our sources called when this one first became available because the Malawi Mapanga is so special," he adds. *Times* readers can sample this select brew at Zingerman's Delicatessen, order it by the press pot at Zingerman's Roadhouse, or have it delivered from Zingerman's Mail Order throughout April.

Deli Announces "Spring Oil Change"

Zingerman's Delicatessen is encouraging *Times* readers to get their kitchens running smoothly this spring with great deals on olive oils. "Those baby greens will start showing up at the market before you know it," warns *Times* sources. Buy two or more olive oils with the Spring Oil Change sticker on them and get 20% off on each at the Deli through April.

Local Smarties Celebrate Graduation with Zingerman's

Area students are showing off their smarts by booking Zingerman's Catering and Events for the perfect party, picnic or barbeque to celebrate graduation. Call now: 734.663.3400 or check out www.zingermanscatering.com

Zingerman's Roadhouse 2501 Jackson Rd. 663.FOOD

Zingerman's Delicatessen 422 Detroit St. 663.DELI

Zingerman's Catering and Events 422 Detroit St. 663.3400

Zingerman's Bakehouse 3711 Plaza Dr. 761.2095

Zingerman's Mail Order 422 Detroit St. 888.636.8162

ZingTRAIN PO Box 1837 930.1919

Zingerman's Creamery 3723 Plaza Dr. 929.0500

Zingerman's Coffee Company 422 Detroit St. 929.6060

www.Zingermans.com

traditional passover foods from Zingerman's a cause for celebration

A survey conducted by the *Times* holiday bureau found area families are letting Zingerman's do the work this Passover with tasty treats that encourage families to just relax and enjoy the festival.

Reports suggest Zingerman's Deli Passover menu of traditional specialty foods is a favorite of *Times* readers. The menu features a complete Seder meal for four with the choice of roast beef brisket or whole-roasted free-range chicken served with traditional Passover sides for \$85. Visit zingermansdeli.com for the Deli's full Passover menu.

Sources reveal Zingerman's Roadhouse is also a popular destination for for *Times* readers this holiday. The Roadhouse's special Passover menu, features an array of a la carte Jewish-American favorites for starters, entrees and dessert.

Zingerman's Bakehouse is serving up macaroons, a traditional Passover sweet, made with real vanilla bean or dark chocolate, available at Zingerman's Bakeshop, Roadhouse, Delicatessen and zingermans.com. Because these macaroons are available only for a limited time, *Times* readers are urged to visit these Zingerman's locations soon.



complete Seder meal for 4 \$85!

For details about traditional Passover and Easter specials throughout Zingerman's Community of Businesses, visit www.zingermans.com

Russian easter cake discovered at bakehouse

Times investigators have uncovered kulich, a long-lost Easter favorite at Zingerman's Bakehouse. Eyewitnesses report this traditional Russian Easter cake is light, golden and buttery with bursts of red flame raisins, Michigan dried cherries, candied lemon and orange, toasted almonds, and more.

Reports indicate that the Bakehouse finishes each kulich package with a traditional dried red rose. *Times* readers should call 761.2095 or 888.636.8162 to order their kulich now — it's only available through April 8.



Zingerman's Roadhouse

easter brunch spots filling fast

April 8 • 10 am-2 pm

The *Times* holiday bureau is suggesting readers call now to make reservations for Easter brunch at Zingerman's Roadhouse. With a la carte menu items including poached eggs served over grilled polenta made with organic, heirloom corn and blintzes filled with Zingerman's Creamery's farm house cheese, seats are expected to fill fast. Call 734.663.FOOD for reservations.



creamery names new! cheese after baker who loves it

Times sources report the Creamery can't resist calling it's new cheese Fromage Franc. "It's named in honor of Frank Carollo, our partner at Zingerman's Bakehouse, who loves this cheese," confides Ann Lofgren from Zingerman's Creamery. Traditionally known as fromage blanc or fromage frais, Ann adds the Fromage Franc is made fresh at the Creamery every Tuesday. Insiders say the cheese, which experts conclude has the perfect "tang-to-milk" ratio, is a tempting alternative to sour cream or yogurt. People have been spotted all over Ann Arbor using it in place of cream in mashed potatoes and mixed with fruit preserves or maple syrup and topped on French toast. Stop by the Zingerman's Cheese Shop at 3723 Plaza Drive or Zingerman's Delicatessen for a free taste.

Zingerman's Creamery

amy's Joy Gelato

Made with handmade Bakehouse macaroons crumbled into the Creamery's vanilla gelato. Available through April.

Free taste at Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr.

Zingerman's bakehouse teaches traditional Jewish baking

BAKE!, the new hands-on teaching bakery at Zingerman's Bakehouse in Ann Arbor, offers traditional Jewish baking classes this Passover season, featuring coconut macaroons, fluffy meringues and spectacular sponge cakes on April 4. Other traditional Jewish baked goods classes, including Better Bagels, Hurray for Challah, Who's Who of Jewish Cookies and others are also offered at BAKE!. For a complete class schedule and registration visit www.zingermans-bakehouse.com.

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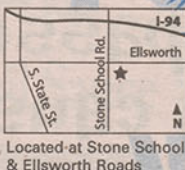
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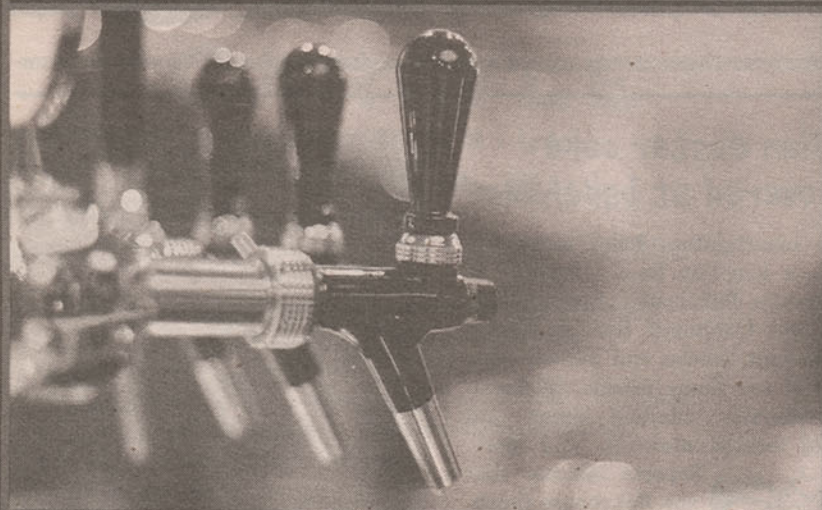
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Restaurant Reviews *continued*

um rare arrived well done. The management also needs to keep a better eye on some of the nonfood details: that ugly message board outside turns me off every time I walk by, the ladies' loo is sometimes less than pristine by the end of the night, and snow and ice on the tricky long curved steps outside went unshoveled and unsalted one evening.

Still, Metro has shown it can get the big things right. The space has so much going for it intrinsically—an easy-park location, a sweeping dining room, a beautiful patio for summer. And it's hard to beat the neighborhood's ambience—Kerrytown's own wonderful Everyday Wines hosts tastings here on the first and third Tuesdays (April 3 and 17) from 6:30 to 9:30. Given all that, the failure of its predecessors is mystifying. But Metro has taken a first solid step toward a better future.

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Quick Bites

Whole Foods made headlines again in February by gobbling up yet another natural grocery chain, Wild Oats. The *New York Times* wondered whether the company was “straying from its roots” of providing locally grown organics. Forget the roots; one look around the Ann Arbor megastore and you'll find a whole new tree—a vast carryout restaurant masquerading as a grocery store.

Since moving from its modest starter home to the 50,000-square-foot digs on Washtenaw in 2003, Whole Foods has offered a vast selection of prepared foods, including its own pizza stand (with an open-flame, gas-fired stone oven that actually puts out a good thin-crust pie); a forty-some-item salad bar; and a twenty-tray steam table. In fact, in terms of staff, this may be one of Ann Arbor's biggest restaurants: the store has its own chef and sixty-five employees in prepared foods (roughly half of whom work in the kitchen), another chef just for meats, and sixteen more people in its two latest ventures—a smokery and a Japanese noodle and sushi counter.

The smokery, launched in November, achieves its smokiness with a combination of wet wood chips and gas heat. In addition to an array of house-made sausages for cooking at home, there are prepared dishes like beef brisket, pulled pork, ribs, and shredded chicken in barbecue sauce for platters or sandwiches. Made-to-order sandwiches on a white or whole-wheat bun with a bag of chips and a two-bite container of either coleslaw or potato salad cost \$4.99–\$7.99. My chicken sandwich on whole wheat was quite good, though the barbecue sauce could have used more kick. The sides fell into the strange Whole Foods salad trap—bland and characterless despite good basic ingredients.

My carryout experiments were varied. Pulled pork and chicken in sauce both reheated well (and at home I could punch up the sauce), but a piece of brisket (\$8.99 a pound) went dry by supper. On my second try, a staffer pulled a brand-new side of brisket from the holding hopper and carved up a fresh slab for me. This one made the journey home in good shape—it had a spicy charred exterior with whispers of its herb rub while inside it was tender and full of smoky character.

I was not impressed with the sausages that I grilled at home—too dry—but the whole smoked chicken (\$6.99) was just stunning. This is the roasted chicken's southern cousin, and though it lacks roasting's crispy skin, the meat is juicy-tender and full of flavor. The leftovers later provided the basis for a remarkable chicken salad and a first-rate smoky chicken soup. I'd even battle the parking lot traffic for this baby.

The noodle-sushi bar also opened late last fall. It is actually run by Kikka, a California-based company, which employs the eight or so people who work the counter and its open kitchen. They have a range of rice and noodle dishes, a grill, and countless permutations of sushi. Most local Japanese restaurants have tastier sushi, and among the hot dishes, Thai glass noodles with shrimp (\$7.25) came in a chicken stock as oversalted as packaged ramen (though a handful of fresh cilantro and crisp sprouts helped). The udon in fish broth with spinach was subtler. Best were the rice platters, whether topped with dark-meat teriyaki-marinated char-grilled chicken or the surprisingly flavorful Korean steak (\$9.95).

If you want to devour food on the spot, head for the dining area in the front corner of the store. This will suit shopping par-

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ents, whose kids seem to coalesce in small bands and maraud safely among the tables. Be prepared to put up with the occasional passing of mini trash bins, one of which an employee parked by my table for a good five minutes, just to remind me that this is a grocery store. Grumpy solo grown-ups will find more peace at the counter seats by the front window.

Whole Foods Market, 3135 Washtenaw, 975-4500. Daily 8 a.m.-10 p.m.
 ♿ Disability friendly.

—Bix Engels

Send tips, quips, and comments on local restaurants to the Bix Tip Line at bixtips@comcast.net.

table talk

The National Restaurant Association named **local food** one of the hottest trends for 2007. *Time* magazine calls local food "the new organic." This is no news to the folks at the Food System Economic Partnership, which has been working since 2005 to help put local foods on local tables in southeastern Michigan. They're holding a daylong conference—open to the public—on March 29 at Washtenaw Community College. Presenters include chefs Rodger Bowser of Zingerman's Deli and Nick Seccia of the Henry Ford Museum, as well as Michael Potter, president of Clinton-based Eden Foods; they'll explore such subjects as the challenges of using local foods in restaurants, the farm-to-school connection, and organic growing. The \$30 fee includes lunch—it'll be interesting to see how much local produce they can find for that in late March. You have to preregister; get details at fsepmichigan.org or from Melissa Draganic at (734) 240-3180.

The old toast "Bottoms up" might take on an unwanted dimension at the **Monkey Bar**. A county inspection report from early February reprinted in the *Ann Arbor News* included a note that dead insects were found in six open bottles of alcohol at the bar. Looking for more info, I searched the county's online restaurant reports. I couldn't find any under that name, so I searched by address—and found the Monkey Bar report under the name of its predecessor at the South Main location, the Full Moon. I learned that the Monkey Bar's problem bottles of orange liqueur, rum, and scotch had been tossed, but I also found this wasn't the first instance of bugs-in-booze at the address: a report from last July also noted the presence of "small flies" in open bottles.

—B. E.



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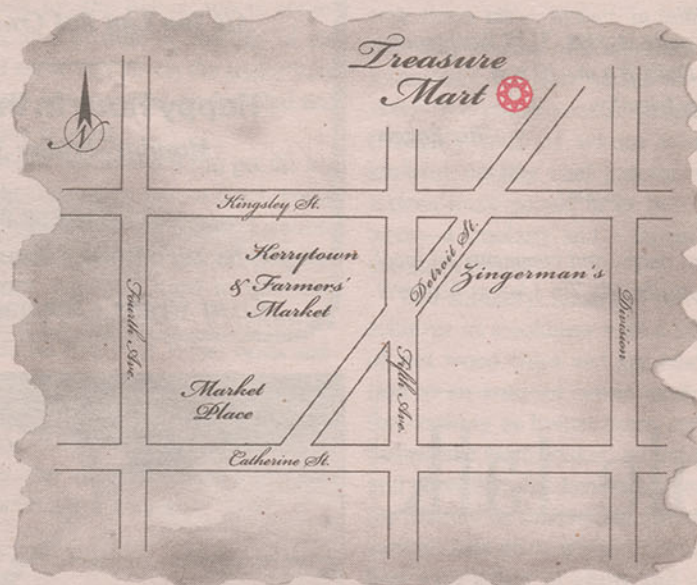
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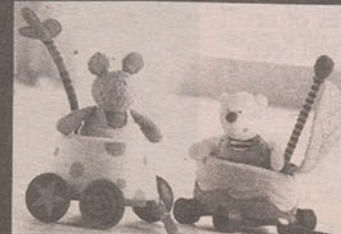
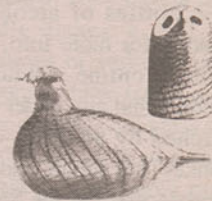
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Marketplace Changes

West side stories

Retailers prep for Skyline High's hungry crowd

A west-side icon, the Milk Depot convenience store stood at Dexter and Maple roads for decades. In 2006 the shop closed its doors for the last time. The Issa family had bought the tiny store in 1977, their first commercial venture in Ann Arbor. Now they've completely rebuilt the structure as their third Ahmo's Deli—but this one has a couple of new twists.

The new Ahmo's is one of three retail spots at different west-side junctions that are getting finishing touches to open in the spring. All are in former gas stations or convenience stores—uses that created sites with great visibility, easy drive-in, and accessible parking. The respective owners hope these features will draw traffic from Skyline High School.

The Issas rebuilt the Milk Depot wall by wall to create a handsomely detailed brick building with red cornices and a painted yellow section. The location is a "gateway to the city," Mohamad Issa says. "We wanted to take the extra step to make it look nice."

The building is half a mile south of Skyline High, currently under construction on Maple Road at M-14. Issa estimates that the high school will provide around 1,500 hungry young customers to the immediate area—and the family will be ready with **Ahmo's Express Deli**. The express aspect is a new concept for Ahmo's, catering to students who usually eat on the run. The hope is "five minutes in and out," says Issa.

Ahmo's Express will serve the most popular sandwiches offered at the other Ahmo's locations. Fifty percent of sales there are from meat and chicken gyros, so those are sure to be included in the menu. Results from a customer survey will determine the rest of the choices. All cooking will be done on the premises. The Issas will also serve soft ice cream; with Ahmo's Express aiming for a May opening, they'll be right in time for the summer ice cream season. Issa plans to open two more Ahmo's Delis in Ann Arbor and then franchise the business outside the city.

At another west-side gateway to Ann Arbor, a striking one-story building painted brick red with accenting cream is ready for occupants. On Jackson Road directly opposite the I-94 east on-ramp, the site was **Fox's Sunoco** for decades. Fara Marz, leasing agent for owners Partech Properties, says the station at 2891 Jackson became a "huge eyesore." The building was abandoned for several years and then went through bankruptcy court to auction, where Partech Properties purchased the property in April 2006.

Partech removed the station's under-



Mohamad Issa is getting ready for the 1,500-some hungry young customers who will attend Skyline High; he's opening his third sandwich shop, Ahmo's Express Deli.

ground storage tanks and spent \$85,000 to haul away 500 cubic yards of contaminated soil (or more than fifty dump truck loads). Current inquiries for the 1,300-square-foot space include a coffee shop, a cell phone store, and a gourmet deli. Like Issa, Marz is pleased that the high school is in the works.

Of the three recent west-side transformations, the former Shell station at the corner of Maple and Miller is the nearest to the planned Skyline High. After a seemingly perpetual renovation, it, too, is at last ready for a tenant.

Listing agent Jim Chaconas of McKinley Commercial says that owner Bill Lagos has done the construction at Maple and Miller "exactly the way he wants it. . . . He built something very special." Chaconas pauses and says, "It may be overbuilt." The building is impressive in its detailing, from the colored-tile inlays in the red-brick facade to the dormer windows in the roof. Four full-height windows overlook the intersection of Maple and Miller.

Lagos spent three and a half years of painstaking personal attention to the construction minutiae, starting with soil decontamination. Chaconas says Lagos did two decontamination projects, including one hole ("It must have been thirty feet deep") dug during the middle of building construction. Chaconas laughs good-naturedly and says, "We had people ready to sign leases, and he wasn't ready." But now that the major renovations are completed, Lagos is entertaining offers from coffee shops and other food-related businesses. Like the other west-side owners, he is hoping to attract high school customers.

Now all the shops need is Skyline High.

—Corry Berkooz

From Kabob Palace to Asian Legend

Home cooking for Ann Arbor's Taiwanese

"When we passed the inspection last Friday," said Kevin Lo in early March, "I made three phone calls to friends, and we were open." Lo is talking about his new restaurant, **Asian Legend**, in the former Kabob Palace near the Cottage Inn on William. Its effortless opening occurred on Saturday, March 3.

At thirty-nine, Lo's an experienced second-generation restaurateur; his father owns Empire Szechuan Garden in Southfield. After learning his trade there, Lo cloned it as Empire Szechuan Garden South in Livonia two years ago.

At Empire South he noticed that many of his customers were Taiwanese living in Ann Arbor (Lo is from Taiwan; his father emigrated in 1984) and that they were homesick for their mothers' cooking. He comforted them with all their favorites, and they convinced him to dump his restaurant in Livonia and come here. Lo bought out the Kabob Palace, ripped out the booths, left the green-marbled wainscoting, painted the upper walls a hot yellow, and suspended small globe lamps in Day-Glo orange and green from the ceiling. The tablecloths are white and the chair seats a deep pink. All of this may sound like a decorator's nightmare, but the total effect is a surprisingly clean and luminous glow suffusing the deep, narrow space. "I just cleaned it up a little," Lo says modestly.

Szechuan is a popular style in Taiwan, and the Lo family has a reputation for Szechuan cooking (Kevin's older brother

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- 1 8oz. chicken breast
- 2 slices spicy capicola
- 2 slices provolone
- 1 roasted red pepper
- 2 fresh basil leaves
- 1 cup unbleached flour
- 3 beaten eggs for egg wash
- 1 cup fine ground bread crumbs
- 1/2 cup grated parmesan cheese
- 1/8 cup fine chopped parsley

Begin by laying your chicken breast on a large sturdy cutting board and covering it with plastic film. Gently pound out the breast with a meat mallet until the breast is flat and about 1/3 inch thick. Remove the plastic film from the chicken breast and lay it smooth side down on your cutting board. Layer 2 slices of spicy Capicola, 2 slices provolone cheese, 1 roasted red pepper and 2 leaves of fresh basil on the chicken breast. Starting from the narrowest end of the chicken breast, carefully roll the stacked ingredients.

Prepare a small pan of all-purpose flour, another pan of egg wash, and finally one pan of finely ground breadcrumbs mixed with chopped parsley and grated parmesan cheese.

Take the prepared chicken breast and roll it in the pan of flour, then roll it in egg wash and finally cover it with your parmesan breadcrumbs.

Pre-heat a sauté pan with olive oil and proceed to sear off your cordon bleu on all sides until golden brown. Once achieved, remove the chicken from the pan and place it on a non stick baking sheet and bake in a 350 degree oven until the cordon bleu is fully cooked to 170 degrees.

Created by Bello Vino's Chef, Ryan Eliuk

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Marketplace Changes *continued*

has taken over the flagship Southfield restaurant, and his younger brother owns Joyful House in Saline). The American version of Szechuan, Lo says, is sweeter and dumbed down, and his main menu at Asian Legend is designed to look like a familiar one to most patrons—but Lo he says he can cook in a more authentic Szechuan style if given advance warning. "It's my specialty. But tell me a day ahead of time. I can make it as hot as you want it."

And make sure to ask for the "Taiwan snack" menu if it's not automatically offered. All Lo's Taiwanese pals know about it, and Lo is still testing the waters to determine whether there's a niche here for Taiwanese home cooking, such as pepper-salted chicken, beef wrapped in crispy onion pancake, and watercress stir-fry with garlic. (This reporter's vote: there is! there is!)

Asian Legend, 516 East William, 622-0752. Mon.-Thurs. 11 a.m.-10 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m.-10:30 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

Alex Gulko turns the corner

The search for perfect foot traffic

To hear jeweler Alex Gulko describe the reason for his impending move, you'd think he was breaking into a new part of town or a different town entirely: "It will be a better environment for me: there are a lot of galleries and shops. People appreciate art there." Yet he's only moving around the corner—from Liberty just west of Fourth Avenue, where's he's been for five years, to 305 South Main, next to Ten Thousand Villages. Before that he was a block west on South Ashley.

The problem with the old locations, he says, was the quality of the foot traffic. As busy a thoroughfare as Liberty is, passersby are not usually window-

shoppers; they're in transit. If you're in the fourteen-carat luxury goods business and are going to have a showroom at all, you need the Friday and Saturday night strollers with fat wallets. It doesn't hurt if they're from the Detroit suburbs, either, where people spend more on bling—but those people, Gulko says, never get off the Main Street restaurant drag.

Gulko, a slim, elegant man, is simultaneously impeccably polite and Slavically intense; he came to Ann Arbor with his wife, Svetlana, from Ukraine fourteen years ago. He designs ornate and conspicuous pieces that want to be noticed and forges them with impressive craftsmanship. Most of his designs have oblique, almost spiky planes and angles, with large semiprecious stones and tiny diamonds winking from unexpected corners. His more classical pieces also tend to use very large semiprecious stones in rounded and baroque settings not unlike those of Fabergé, to which he has a connection: his teacher's father actually worked for the prerevolutionary Russian court goldsmiths.

With pieces beginning at \$100 to \$300 and topping out at \$3,500 or \$4,000, Gulko needs the rich and impulsive Friday and Saturday strollers more than ever now that Pfizer is closing. "I have five or six loyal clients from Pfizer," he says. "And from Ford and Chrysler too. It's difficult to say what will happen. I'm not an economist, I can't make a prediction, but..." His sentence has no ending, but no doubt it would be something like "you'd have to be an idiot to think recent events are going to be good for business."

Gulko gives high marks to Ann Arbor's jewelry aesthetic. "There are a lot of custom jewelers here," he says, "so Ann Arbor people know quality. You can't fool them. But they're tricky," he continues. "They don't wear jewelry to show off. They want unique pieces, that perhaps mean something to them. And they like delicate pieces." He had just brushed up against the opposite extreme, doing a show in Fort Lauderdale where women would show up "with huge diamonds on the neck, on the arms, the ears, two or three hundred thousand dollars worth of jewelry at once, on a Saturday morning! You would never get that in Ann Arbor."



Alex Gulko is hoping more customers will find his shop—and his dramatic jewelry designs—once he moves around the corner onto Main Street.

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Marketplace Changes continued

Gulko was hoping to move in late March or early April. When he does, he plans to extend his hours on Friday and possibly Saturday too.

Alex Gulko Jewelry, 305 North Main, 741-0652. Probable new hours: Tues.-Thurs. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Fri. 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; closed Sun. & Mon.

—Sally Mitani

What's in a name?

Chipotle is growing fast—and tying tongues

When Directory Assistance voice-recognition software can't understand what you say, there's a very humanlike pause before the pleasant automated voice cheerfully passes the buck to a live operator. That pregnant pause seemed longer than usual during a recent call after the voice heard "Chipotle."

You can't blame the software; a lot of people have trouble pronouncing the name of the country's biggest fast-casual Mexican restaurant chain—which is also the name of a smoked and dried jalapeño pepper. It's pronounced "chee-POTE-lay," though a lot of people say "chee-POLE-tay" or even "chee-POTE-ull." But with nearly 600 **Chipotle Mexican Grills**

All Chipotles are variations on the same theme—lots of polished steel tables, plenty of glass, spare blond wood, and exposed ductwork, all reflecting music the company website gleefully describes as "a little too loud."

nationwide and a new one opening every four days on average, it's only a matter of time before people start getting it right.

The Ann Arbor Chipotle opened in March on the site of the former Ponderosa on Washtenaw. You order by selecting an entree—your basic choices are burritos and tacos—and choosing its ingredients. Then you follow your order down the counter as workers on the other side of the sneeze guard quickly add an ingredient or two and pass it on. Core choices include chicken, steak, and barbecue or free-range pork, plus beans, rice, and guacamole. Most add-ons—cheese, salsas, lettuce, bell peppers, and grilled onions—are free; guacamole is \$1.50 extra. The company maintains that the mass of options allows you to build 65,000 different burritos—assuming you had that kind of time and you really liked burritos.

The company also maintains that no two locations look exactly alike, and that's true in the same way that no two IKEAs look exactly alike. All Chipotles are variations on the same theme—lots of polished steel tables, plenty of glass, spare blond wood, and exposed ductwork, all reflecting music the company website gleefully describes as "a little too loud."

Founder Steve Ellis puts a big emphasis on what he calls "food with integrity." That mostly means organic meat. All Chipotle's pork comes from hogs raised organically, without antibiotics or hormones. Organic chicken and beef are harder to come by, but Chipotle uses them when possible. The restaurant is a lot quieter on the subject of organic produce, and with good reason: while it uses fresh avocados, tomatoes, and peppers, almost none of its produce is organic because of the high cost.

And all those fresh, organic ingredients don't necessarily make for a low-calorie meal. The thirteen-inch flour tortillas used to wrap each burrito are 330 calories alone. An entire McDonald's cheeseburger, bun and all, is 300.

Most locations serve alcohol, but Ann Arborites will have to wait to try one of Chipotle's reportedly potent margaritas. "There wasn't a liquor license available," general manager Christine Bessert says. "When one is available, we'll definitely serve it."

Chipotle pioneered the fast-casual burrito bar in Denver in 1993. Its major competitor, Qdoba Mexican Grill, opened its first location in 1995, also in Denver, and it's rumored that Qdoba's founders decided to open their own place after Steve Ellis declined to sell them a franchise. The two chains have been going head to head ever since. Qdoba's in second place, with more than 350 locations. Moe's Southwest Grill, founded in 2001, runs a close third, with more than 300. While Qdoba and Moe's are franchised, all Chipotles

are company owned—which may explain why it's the last of the three to arrive in Ann Arbor.

It's a little surprising that Chipotle doesn't franchise, given that McDonald's used to be a part owner. Ellis had six burrito shops when he approached McDonald's development arm for the cash to take Chipotle national. But McDonald's gradually bowed out of the picture to concentrate on its core fast-food business, and by late 2006 Chipotle was an independent corporate entity once again.

And if you're still having trouble with the name, you're not alone. The live operator who provided the restaurant's phone number after the Directory Assistance voice-recognition software drew a blank was heard to mutter as she rang off, "Chip-OHL-tay? Did I say that right?"

Chipotle Mexican Grill, 3354 Washtenaw, 975-9912. Daily 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

—Tony McReynolds

Briefly Noted

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354 Washte-
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ts at Fitness

Experts in Arborland, explaining why the place is giving up its prime piece of real estate behind Starbucks and has moved a quarter mile west. In November, Fitness Experts, which sells high-end home exercise equipment, opened a store in the newly built Chalmers Place (also housing InkStop and the Vitamin Shoppe), but the Arborland store will remain open until the lease is up this October; in the meantime, it's being used mainly to unload discontinued items.

Paul Hall, manager of both stores, says that Arborland is the most expensive real estate in Ann Arbor, and that the Arborland Starbucks is "one of the busiest Starbucks in the Midwest, and that includes Chicago." The coffeehouse's spectacular ascent dragged the rent of the entire building up with it—Hall says that at Chalmers Place Fitness Experts was "able to get a new store and go back to the rent we were paying in 1999."

Hall, who has a degree in sports medicine from EMU, is personable and healthy looking but not intimidatingly so—as if his involvement in fitness might be equal parts active and passive. He shows off the shiny new store, a corner location with floor-to-ceiling windows and rows of bikes and treadmills lined up like infantry and cavalry on a battlefield. "What's popular now is the elliptical trainer, which simulates the walking-running motion but without impact," he says, demonstrating a contraption that keeps your feet looping around and never quite hitting the ground, sort of like the Road Runner in slow motion. Ranging from \$500 to \$4,000, "they've been around for ten or twelve years, originally designed for people with knee problems, but have become the number-one-selling piece of equipment." Recumbent exercise bikes are the other popular big-ticket item (\$300 to \$3,000).

Portable fitness aids include medicine balls (\$25–\$75) and the hemispherical \$119 BOSU ball for core strength. Like all of Fitness Experts' equipment, both come with a large dose of personal service. "Unlike the big-box stores, everyone on staff has degrees in exercise science or have been personal trainers," says Hall. "We want to be able to sell you a plan to go with your equipment."

Fitness Experts, 3365 Washtenaw, 389-2550. Mon.–Fri. 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m.

Closings

Taqueria La Tica, which briefly occupied the corner that was for much longer Bev's Caribbean Kitchen, closed at the end of 2006, possibly a victim of Ann Arbor's food hypocrisy. "People in Ann Arbor say they like authentic food. They wanted me to be a Mexican Indian," says owner Claudio Carpio, who is from Costa Rica. Over the telephone his Latino roots are evident, but in person he apparently does not convey the requisite campesino image. "They don't realize that tacos are all over Latin America, not just Mexico. I had lots of Mexican customers. They loved it because they want their rice and beans

真

[Authenticity]



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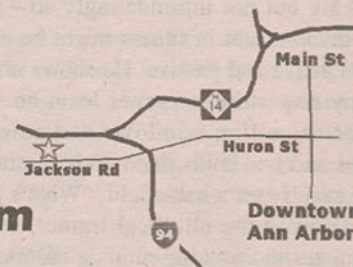
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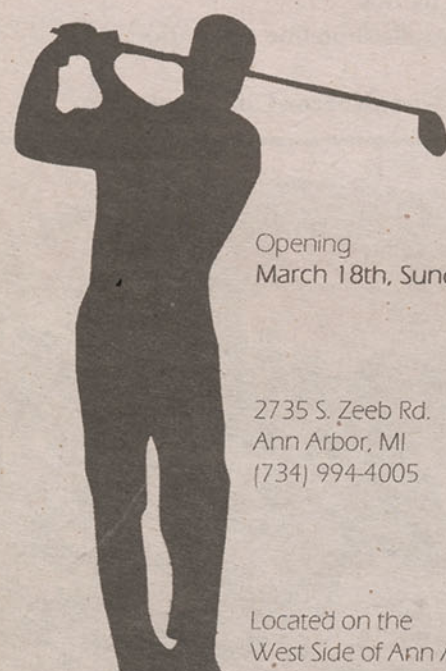
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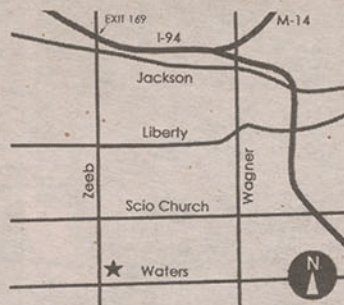


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Marketplace Changes *continued*

fresh." While Ann Arborites say they want their food authentic, says Carpio, they are reluctant to pay for it, opting for cheaper "factory food, like Qdoba, where the food comes from the freezer and has been sitting around for two or three days when you buy it."

The jig was up when Mr. Pizza nearby threw down the gauntlet a few months after Taqueria La Tica opened and started selling a \$6 fajita, undercutting Carpio's much larger (and, according to Carpio, fresher) \$10 fajita, and two small tacos for \$3.50, against Carpio's one large for \$2.50. "So I started selling pizza for five dollars," says Carpio. "It was easy for me, because I had all the ingredients. But I didn't really want to play like that. I feel—I don't know—like a clown?" He's now "looking for different jobs—maybe something like shipping produce."

After eighty years or so, two Moe's finally became one Moe too many. The **Moe Sport Shop** on South State bit the dust at the end of 2006. The original Moe on North University, which has been around since 1915 (the State location opened about a decade later), is still alive and well, says manager Michael Walton.

Business on State was always seasonal, says Walton, sustained for the entire year by the brisk trade in football season as students picked up their maize and blue wearables en route to games. "No parking down there," adds Bud VanDeWege Sr., who has owned the business since 1964. His son Bud Jr. runs it now, but Bud Sr. still comes in most days and watches ESPN in a back office. "Also, that used to be the only intramural building down there on State Street. Now there are other campus intramural buildings. Gym class isn't required anymore either." Over the years the game-day income dwindled, and the decision was made to put the State Street shop out of its misery. Also playing into the decision was that the South State store was rented; on North U, Moe owns its building.

To the untrained eye, it may look as if there's an oversupply of U-M sweatshirts up by the Diag. Steve and Barry's, Great Lakes Team Apparel, and the original Moe Sport Shop are all within a football's throw of the corner of State and North U. Actually, says Walton, it's a perfectly segmented market. Moe sells the high-end quality goods: Nike, Champion, Cutter & Buck, Columbia. "Look at it this way," says Walton. "If we were department stores, we'd be Marshall Field's, Great Lakes would be Mervyn's, and Steve and Barry's would be Target."

The demise of Braun Court's **Fuji** perhaps brings to mind Dorothy Parker's quip when she was informed that Calvin Coolidge was dead: "How can they tell?" The Japanese restaurant in Braun Court

had been moribund for some time, open for a week, closed the next. But according to Keith Orr, one of the owners of the \aut\ Bar (and three of the other six Braun Court buildings), "they haven't been open for about four months. There was a For Sale sign in the window for a while that recently came down, but I haven't heard anything about a sale."

Fuji was the only original Braun Court restaurant to remain under the same name (the \aut\ Bar is successor to another, La Casita de Lupe). The collection of houses was bought up and converted in the 1980s by developer Peter Allen, much to the chagrin of those who saw it as one of the last enclaves of affordable housing downtown. Founder Joon Park sold it about ten years ago to Katsuo and Sumie Eguchi.

—Sally Mitani

Follow-Up

Ten years ago this month, Marketplace Changes featured three new businesses. Only one of them is still open: **Holiday's**, the family restaurant on Stadium Boulevard that replaced the short-lived Kenny Rogers Roasters. Art gallery **Animality**, which was in the MarketPlace Building adjoining the Farmers' Market, is gone. So is **Fertile Crescent**, a South Main Market produce store.

April 1997 survival rate: 33 percent

Five years ago this month, this column reported four retail and restaurant openings. **Leo's Deli** replaced Garden Cafe in Huron Towers; then it closed, and the modest breakfast and lunch spot became a new business, once again named Garden Cafe—and closed again. **New York Pizza Inn**, in the Courtyard Shops on Plymouth Road, changed its name a couple of times before closing altogether. The survivors are audio shop **Hollywood Sound**, on Platt, and the **Pier 1 Imports** on Carpenter.

April 2002 survival rate: 50 percent

One year ago this month, we covered nine new businesses. Seven of them are still open, one of them is gone (**Taqueria La Tica**; see Closings, above), and another—**Marnee Thai**, on South Main—is still under construction. Still with us are restaurant and wine bar **Vinology** on Main; south-side sushi restaurant **Cherry Blossom**, housed in the onetime Chi Chi's on State; **Big Moe's Coney**, cell phone store **MetroPCS**, and a **Cottage Inn Pizza** franchise, all at Pittsfield Crossing on Washtenaw; **Cingular Wireless** in McKinley Towne Centre on Liberty; and the **Vitamin Shoppe** in Chalmers Place on Washtenaw.

April 2006 survival rate: 89 percent

—Laura McReynolds

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— Marilyn Stasio, *New York Post*

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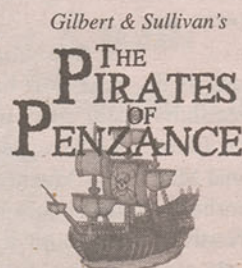
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April Events

We want to know about your event!

Please send a press release (no phone calls, please).

By mail: John Hinchey, Calendar Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104.

By fax: 769-3375 or 769-4950.

By e-mail: hinch@aaobserver.com

After-hours drop box: right side of the Observer's front door facing Catherine.

What gets in?

We give priority to Ann Arbor events. Always include a contact person's telephone number. Please try to submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the deadline (the tenth day of the preceding month) might not get in.

Next month's deadline:

All appropriate materials received by the tenth day of the month for the upcoming month will be used as space permits; materials submitted later might not get in (but will be added to arborweb).

arborweb:

The entire Observer events calendar for the month is available at arborweb: www.arborweb.com. This calendar is updated daily. If you have an event not listed in the print calendar, or want to update a listed event, please send it and we'll post it on arborweb.

★ Denotes no admission charge.

WARNING!

To save space, many recurrent events are noted only the first time they occur. This includes many weekly and biweekly events. To find a full list of events for the last Wednesday in the month, for example, readers should also check earlier Wednesday listings, especially the first Wednesday.

www.arborweb.com

1 SUNDAY

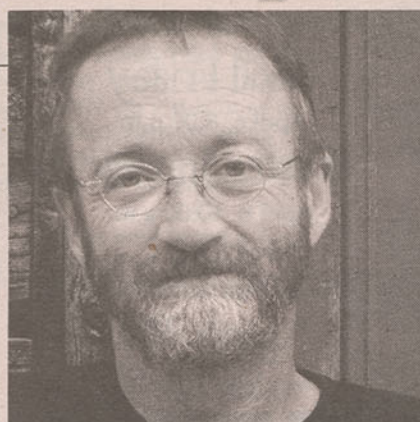
★**Falun Gong.** Every Sunday. Local practitioners introduce this Chinese discipline, which consists of 5 exercises and meditation. 8:30-10:30 a.m., location TBA. Free. 834-4978.

★**"T'ai Chi Ch'uan at the Cube."** Every Saturday & Sunday. Local t'ai chi instructor Chad Eisner leads beginners and advanced practitioners in these slow meditative movements. 9 a.m., U-M Cube, between the Union and the SAB. Free. 930-2747.

★**"First Sunday Ride of 2007":** Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Slow/moderate-paced ride, 22 to 40 miles, to the Lighthouse Cafe in Dexter for breakfast. 9 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 434-3097.

23rd Annual Spring Training Series: Quick Release. Every Sunday except April 8. Training races designed to give beginning cyclists racing experience and experienced cyclists a jump on the season. Includes races for first-time and beginning ("C"), intermediate ("B"), advanced ("A"); women's, and junior's USCF-licensed racers. Coaches are on hand to offer assistance to C riders. Cash prizes. Registration begins at 8 a.m. 9 a.m. (C race), 10 a.m. (B race), 10:45 a.m. (women's race), 11:30 a.m. (A race), & 1 p.m. (juniors). Runway Plaza, off S. State near the Ann Arbor Airport. \$20 per week (riders 18 & younger and first-timers, \$12) includes USCF insurance. To register, pick up a form in downtown bike shops or at www.quickrelease.com.

Handcraft Sale: Sales Exchange Refugee Rehabilitation Volunteers. March 31 & April 1. A wide variety of handcrafted items by Third World artisans. SERRV is an ecumenical nonprofit marketing organization designed to provide a major alternative sales outlet for artisans in economically developing areas of the world. 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran



David Francey, Apr. 9



Ubaka Hill, Apr. 15

GALLERIES

- | | | |
|----|------------------|------------|
| 61 | Exhibit Openings | Laura Bien |
| 61 | Gallery Review | |
| | Food as history | Laura Bien |

MUSIC AT NIGHTSPOTS

- | | | |
|-----|----------------------|------------------|
| 108 | Nightspots Schedule | John Hinchey |
| 108 | Nightspots Review | |
| | Cool Moose Orchestra | Sandor Slomovits |

EVENTS REVIEWS

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 65 | Candida | |
| | Shaw at his wittiest and wheeziest | Sally Mitani |
| 70 | Jonathan Lethem | |
| | Cool people | Keith Taylor |
| 73 | U-M Jazz Showcase | |
| | Academia after dark at the Ark | Piotr Michalowski |
| 75 | U-M Chopin Project | |
| | What can you expect? | James Leonard |
| 79 | Measha Brueggergosman | |
| | Personality | James M. Manheim |
| 83 | Cheryl Wheeler | |
| | Hero, worshipped | Whit Hill |
| 91 | SpiritSisters | |
| | Shamanism and beyond | Charmie Gholson |
| 95 | Eliza Gilkyson | |
| | Spanning the centuries | Whit Hill |
| 103 | Ann Arbor Area Writers Group | |
| | The more eyes, the better | Charmie Gholson |
| 132 | Events at a Glance | |

Deanna Bogart, Apr. 17



Peter Madcat Ruth, Apr. 29



Church (back entrance), 1501 W. Liberty. Free admission. Wheelchair-accessible. 663-0362.

★**Meditation: Karma Thegsum Choling.** Every Sunday. All invited to sitting (9:30 a.m.) and chanting (10 a.m.) meditation. 9:30 a.m., KTC, 614 Miner (off Miller). Free. 761-7495, 678-7549.

Deep Spring Center for Meditation and Spiritual Inquiry. Every Sunday. Meditators of all levels invited for an hour of silent meditation focusing on the breath. While the practice stems from the earliest and purest Buddhist teachings, this form of meditation requires no religious beliefs. Followed by a 30-minute dharma discussion. 10-11:30 a.m., Deep Spring Center, 3003 Washtenaw, suite 2 (entrance on Glenwood, next to Arby's). Free, but donations accepted. 477-5848.

★**Introductory Dharma Talk: Jewel Heart Buddhist Center.** Every Sunday except April 8. Talks by Gehlek Rinpoche, an incarnate lama from Tibet who lives in Ann Arbor, or one of Gehlek's senior students. 10-11 a.m., Jewel Heart Buddhist Center, 207 E. Washington. Free, but donations accepted. 994-3387.

★**"Spring Knap-In": Michigan Flintknappers.** Michigan artisans demonstrate the ancient art of chipping razor-sharp tools from stone. Also, members of the Great Lakes Primitives demonstrate stone-age technologies for starting a fire, making cordage from plant materials, and gathering wild edibles and medicinal plants. Also, the Michigan Atlatl Association holds its "April Fool's Paleo Thing Spring Fling" (noon), a tournament to test members' skills with the prehistoric spear thrower, and the Chelsea Rod & Gun Club 3-D archery course is open to archers for a \$9 fee. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Chelsea Rod & Gun Club, 7103 Lingane Rd. (south off Waterloo Rd., west of Chelsea). Free. (810) 231-2314.

"35th Annual Dance for Mother Earth Ann Arbor Powwow": U-M Native American Student Association/Office of Multiethnic Student Affairs. March 31 & April 1. More than 10,000 visitors are expected to attend this gathering of Native Americans from throughout the Great Lakes area, traditionally the largest such gathering in the state. Costumes range from the informal to spectacular authentic ceremonial outfits. The program includes social dancing and demonstrations of different styles of Native American dance, including fancy, traditional, grass dress, and jingle dress. The big attractions this weekend are children and adult dancing contests in a variety of styles. The dancers are accompanied by several different Native American drumming ensembles from all over North America. Grand entries at noon both days & 7 p.m. on March 31 only. Other attractions include display and sale of traditional crafts and food. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. (10:30 a.m.-10 p.m. on March 31), Crisler Arena. Daily admission: \$10 (students, \$7; seniors 60 & older and kids ages 4-12, \$5; kids 3 & under, free; family, \$25) per day & \$15 weekend pass in advance and at the door. To charge by phone: 763-TKTS; information: 647-6999.

★**"Budget, Taxes, and the Permanent War Economy":** Ann Arbor Unitarian Fellowship. Talk by U-M Flint political science professor Albert Price. 10 a.m., Burns Park Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 971-8638.

★**First Singles: First Presbyterian Church.** Every Sunday except April 8. A weekly program open to all single adults interested in contemporary Christian topics, new ideas, personal growth, and social and physical activities. Today: an open discussion. Also this month: First Singles member Sharon Sprague discusses "My Recent Visit to India" (April 15), First Singles member Sharon Morrow discusses "Medicare Benefits" (April 22), and a speaker TBA discusses "The Michigan Prisoner Reentry Initiative" (April 29). Also, members meet for breakfast every Saturday at 10 a.m. at Cafe Marie in the Courtyard Shops (1759 Plymouth Rd.). 11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church Curtis Room, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662-4466, ext. 43.

Artisan Market. Every Sunday. Show and sale of fine crafts, jewelry, soaps, furniture, fiber arts, and gift items. Also, live music TBA. 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Farmers' Market. Free admission. 665-2009.

"O-Meet": Southern Michigan Orienteering Club. April 1, 15, & 22 (different locations). All invited to try this at-your-own-pace sport of reading maps and compasses to follow an outdoor course. Maps, some compasses available. No experience necessary. Noon-2 p.m., Silver Lake, Dexter-Townhall Rd. (1 mile north off North Territorial). \$5 (members, \$4; beginners, \$3). 662-1000.

★**Tour: Zingerman's Creamery.** Every Sunday. Zingerman's cheesemaker John Loomis leads a tour of the facility where Zingerman's cheeses are made.

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First Baptist Church of Ann Arbor

~ invites you to join us in worship ~

Good Friday
April 6, 8:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday
April 8, 10:00 a.m.

PASTORS:
Paul & Stacey Simpson Duke

First Baptist Church
512 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor MI 48104
(downtown between State & Division)

734-663-9376 www.fbcA2.org

1 SUNDAY continued

Noon-2 p.m., Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. Free. 929-0500.

Easter Egg Hunt: Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. Kids age 12 & under invited to sign up for an egg hunt. Also, a variety of activities for kids while they are waiting for the hunt for their age group. Noon, Hudson Mills Rapids View Area, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. \$2. Pre-registration required. Vehicle entrance fees: \$4/day, \$20/year (\$12 for seniors age 62 & over). 434-1615, 426-8211.

★Passover Tasting: Whole Foods Market. A chance to sample Passover treats. Noon-4 p.m., Whole Foods sales floor, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Pre-registration requested. 975-4500.

★Easter Event: First Baptist Church. Family-oriented program with a variety of activities exploring the meaning of Lent, Palm Sunday, and Easter. Includes crafts, the Easter story, and an egg hunt. The program begins with lunch. 12:30-2:30 p.m., First Baptist Church, 512 E. Huron. Free. 663-9376.

★Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Sunday. All seniors age 50 & older invited to play bridge. No partner required. 12:30-3:30 p.m., Hillside Terrace, 1939 Jackson. Free. 769-5911.

Contact Improv. April 1, 15, & 29. All invited to try this interactive, freeform dance style that involves contact with one or more partners. It can involve improvisational lifts and other experimentations with gravity. You might find yourself upside down, so dress appropriately for easy movement. No partner required; beginners welcome. Followed by discussion and socializing. 12:30-2:30 p.m., Jazzercise Dance Studio, 1945 South Industrial. \$5-\$10 sliding scale based on ability to pay. 604-4416.

★Volunteer Stewardship Workday: Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation Division. April 1, 14, & 21 (different locations). All invited to help city parks natural area preservation staff maintain the natural areas in various city parks. Also, city staffers lead a short nature walk at the end of each workday. Minors must be accompanied by an adult or obtain a release form in advance. Today: a trip to **Dolph Nature Area** to clear the park's trails. 1-4 p.m., Dolph Nature Area, meet at the parking lot on Wagner Rd. (between Liberty and Jackson). Free. 996-3266.

Tour: Kempf House Museum. Every Sunday. Guided tours of this restored 19th-century Greek Revival home, named for the family of German American musicians who occupied it at the turn of the 19th century. 1-4 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. Admission \$1 (children under age 12, free). 994-4898.

★Ann Arbor Go Club. Every Sunday & Thursday. Players of all skill levels invited to play what's probably the world's oldest board game. No partner necessary. Boards and stones provided. 1-6 p.m. (Sun.) & 7 p.m.-midnight (Thurs.), Espresso Royale, 322 S. State. Free. 417-5547.

"Blaubart, Hoffnung der Frauen": U-M Residential College 23rd Annual Deutsches Theater. March 31 & April 1. Residential College German language lecturer Janet Hegman Shier directs RC students in Dea Loher's contemporary adaptation of the fairy tale of *Bluebeard*. In this version, Bluebeard is a passive shoe salesman overpowered by 7 different women who project onto him what they wish to see in a man—and more or less force him into the role of murderer. Detailed program notes and superlatives are provided to make the performance enjoyable even to those who don't understand German. Proceeds donated to charity. 1 p.m., RC auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. \$5 (or nonperishable food) suggested donation. 647-4378.

"3rd Annual Benefit Jakson Spires Scholarship Fund-Raiser." A memorial show for Jakson Spires, the former Blackfoot drummer and longtime Ann Arborite who died in 2005 of a brain aneurysm. Headliner is Spires's last band, *Thunderfoot*, a sextet fronted by former Molly Hatchet vocalist Jimmy Farrar whose repertoire includes lots of Blackfoot and Molly Hatchet songs. Also, 2 local bands Spires performed with when he lived in town—the versatile honky-tonk band *Drivin' Sideways* (with guest guitarist *Chris Casello*) and the country band *The Jim Tate Band* (with guest guitarist *Al Hill*). Also, nationally renowned local folk, blues, and jazz harmonica wiz *Peter Madcat Ruth*. Also, *Boogie*, a blues quartet led by Tate that performs a tribute to its late guitarist Dan McIntire, who died last summer. Opening act is Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts (AASPA) ensemble *Dueling Drummers*. Emcee is Terraplanes frontman and WCBN *Nothin' but the Blues* host Jerry Mack. A benefit for the AASPA Scholarship Fund. 1-9 p.m., Creekside Bar & Grill, 5827 Jackson Rd. \$20 requested donation. 662-7154.

★Pickup Games: Ann Arbor Ultimate. Every Sunday. All invited to join a team game played

cuarts

concordia university arts
ann arbor, michigan



Concordia Choir: Arthur Honegger's *King David*



Concordia University Theatre presents *The Fantasticks*



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April 2007 Events

Concordia Choir: Arthur Honegger's *King David* ♦

Sunday, April 1 • 4 p.m.
Chapel of the Holy Trinity

Under the direction of Professor Brian Altevogt, the Concordia Choir presents *King David*, the dramatic oratorio of Arthur Honegger. This early 20th century work chronicles the significant events of David's life, complete with spoken narration and an appearance by the Witch of Endor.

Concordia Wind Ensemble ♦

Friday, April 13 • 8 p.m.
Chapel of the Holy Trinity

Under the direction of Professor Emily Threinen, the Concordia Wind Ensemble presents a program of works including selections by Mark Scatterday, William Latham, Vincent Persichetti, John Barnes Chance, and Charles Ives. The concert will also feature a special performance of *Bugler's Holiday* by Leroy Anderson featuring Concordia staff members Eric Becher, Robert McCormick and professor Jean Libbs.

Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park

Saturday, April 14
Cost: \$45

Discover the beauty and splendor of Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park, a spectacular botanic garden and world-class sculpture park in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Following a visit to the gardens we'll make a stop at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. Cost includes motor coach transportation, admission to the Meijer Gardens and Butterfly Exhibit, lunch at the Taste of the Gardens café, a tram tour of the gardens and admission to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum.

Motor coach transportation will depart from the Earhart Manor at 9 a.m. and return by 6 p.m.

Concordia University Theatre presents *The Fantasticks*

by Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt

April 19, 20, 21 • 8:00 p.m.

April 22 • 2:30 p.m.

Kreft Center • Black Box Theatre

Tickets: \$14

One of the most popular musicals ever, *The Fantasticks* is a timeless fable of young lovers who become disillusioned only to discover a more mature and meaningful love. With a fine sense of theatricality and nostalgia the musical pulls at your heart strings and your funny bone with numbers like *Try to Remember*, *Never Say No*, *Soon It's Gonna Rain* and *Plant a Radish*.

Annual Student Art Exhibition ♦

April 24 - May 2
Kreft Center Gallery

Opening Reception: April 27 • 6-8 p.m.

This annual juried exhibition highlights the work of select Concordia art students.

Honors Student Recital ♦

Thursday, April 26 • 7:30 p.m.
Chapel of the Holy Trinity

Select vocal and instrumental students perform in this free recital highlighting the talents of Concordia's music students.

Concordia Jazz Ensemble ♦

Friday, April 27 • 8 p.m.

Kreft Center • Black Box Theatre

The Concordia University Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Sean Dobbins will perform a wide variety of jazz styles, from funk to blues to swing.

♦ denotes free event

For tickets or more information about any of these events call:
734.955.4612 or visit www.cuaa.edu/cuarts

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A to Z: An Alphabet of Regional and Ethnic Culinary Traditions

Food as history

Your mother's sauerbraten recipe on an index card. Nostalgia for nasi goreng, a spicy Indonesian dish from an unsavory country with a colonialist past. A hankering for double-salt licorice. Given the cornerstone role of foodways in human cultures, it's no surprise that the U-M Clements Library's planned exhibition of nineteenth-century ethnic and regional cookbooks and related ephemera reveals surprising, forgotten facets of this country's culture.

Arranged from A (African American) to Z (Zuni corn culture), the show includes Malinda Russell's *Domestic Cook Book*. Unearthed by the Clements, this 1866 Michigan work claims the title of the country's earliest African American cookbook, an honor formerly held by Abby Fisher's 1881 *What Mrs. Fisher Knows about Old Southern Cooking*.

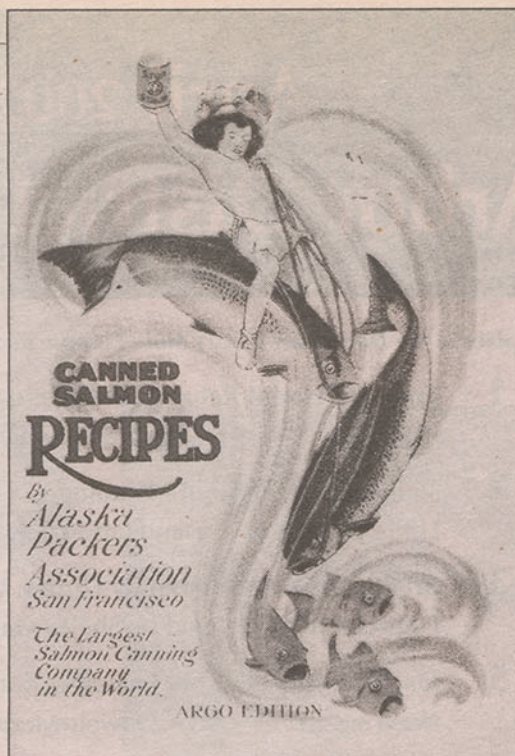
Another surprise is the biodiversity shown in a list of the fish available at a Rhode Island market. The eighty-six varieties listed include brill and the mysterious "frost fish" and "bullies." Says exhibit curator Jan Longone, "It blows my mind."

The exhibit also offers aesthetic pleasures. Opposite the title page of *Praktisches Kochbuch für die Deutschen in Amerika* there's a German cook's visage, so grim it suggests she owned a kitchen scale calibrated to thousandths of an ounce. There's also the

famed 1903 "Settlement" cookbook, flirtatiously titled *The Way to a Man's Heart* (the right way, apparently—it's still in print). Fish-steeds swirl on an ad for salmon (pictured). There's even a rhymed recipe for chowder:

First lay some Onions to keep
the Pork from burning,
Because in Chowder there can
be no turning,
Then lay some Pork in slices
very thin,
That you in Chowder always
must begin,
Next, lay some Fish cut
crossways very nice,
Then season well with pepper,
salt and spice,
Parsley, Sweet Marjoram,
Savory, and Thyme,
Then Biskit next which must be
soak'd some time,
Thus your foundation laid, you
will be able,
To raise a Chowder high as the Tower
of Babel.
For by repeating o'er the same again,
You may make Chowder for a thousand
men.
Last, Bottle of Claret with Water eno' to
smother them,
You'll have a Mess which some will
Omnium gather 'em.

As Rhode Island boasted of its chowder, other regions boosted their regional cuisines, as in Cleveland's 1842 *Every Body's Cook and Receipt Book: But More Particularly De-*



signed for Buckeyes, Hoosiers, Wolverines, Corncrackers, Suckers, and All Epicures Who Wish to Live with the Present Times.

Longone's favorites? A sober treatise on orange cultivation whose cover and endpapers are merrily colored orange, and Michigan's first cookbook. Michael Miller's 1845 Detroit-published *The Western Artist* offered "300 choice recipes" for the delectation of Washtenaw County pioneer women, armed with balky wood stoves and a couple of cast iron pans.

The exhibition runs from March 26 through June 1.

—Laura Bien

New exhibits this month:

Ann Arbor District Library, 343 South Fifth Avenue. *Public School Annual Spring Show* (April 18–May 30). 327-4510.

Clay Gallery, 110 East Liberty. *Ceramics: Two Places at Once* (April 1–29). 662-7927.

Concordia University, 4090 Geddes. *Senior Art* (through April 22). *Student Art* (through May 2). 995-7591.

EMU Ford Gallery, Ford Hall, East Cross between Welch Hall and Boone Hall. *Student Art Show* (April 2–20). *Honors Exhibition* (April 23–27). Reception 23 Monday, 4–6 p.m. 487-1268.

Gallery 4, 212 Nickels Arcade. *Cara Levine: Video and Sculpture Transforming the Ordinary* (April 14–28). (310) 480-6286.

Gifts of Art (U-M Hospitals). *Michigan Quilt Artist Invitational*; *Luminous Metal Vessels* by David Huang; *The Healing Paintings* by Jerome Ragne; *Animals in Bronze* by Sharon Sommers; *Color Photography* by Monte Nagler; *Stearns Collection of Musical Instruments*; *Wonders of Michigan Wildlife* by Michael Glenn Monroe; *Silver Jewelry* by Elizabeth Soll and Andrea Sims (April 23–June 20). 936-ARTS.

Life Sciences Library, 210 Washtenaw. *The Seduction of Scale* (April 2–30). 764-0397.

River Gallery, 120 North Main, Chelsea. *Works by John Himmelfarb* (April 7–May 19). 433-0826.

Riverside Arts Center, 76 North Huron, Ypsilanti. *Ann Arbor Art Teachers and Alumni Association Exhibition* (April 12–28). Reception 21 Saturday, 5–7 p.m. 480-2787.

U-M Museum of Art. *Islamic Cenotaph* (April 2–June 29, at Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 North Dixboro Road). 763-UMMA.

U-M Slusser & Robbins Galleries, 2000 Bonisteel, & **Work Gallery**, 306 South State. *86-Senior Show* (April 6–28). Receptions (at all three galleries) 13 Friday, times TBA, & 28 Saturday, 2–5 p.m. 763-4417.

Washington Street Gallery, 120 East Liberty. *The Word on the Street* (April 1–May 6). 761-2287.

Washtenaw Community College Gallery-One, 4800 East Huron River Drive. *At the Crossroads* (through April 27). 477-8512.

For a complete listing of local galleries, see the 2006–2007 Ann Arbor Observer City Guide or arborweb.com.

with a flying disc. 2 p.m., Fuller Field. Free. info@a2ultimate.org.

★**"Kerry Tales: March Forth with Mother Goose"**: Kerrytown Shops. 30-minute family-oriented program of rhymes, riddles, and rollicking fun, with local storyteller Trudy Bulkley as Mother Goose. 2 p.m., Hollander's (Kerrytown), 407 N. Fifth Ave. Free. 769-3115.

★**"Wild and Wacky Tales"**: Ann Arbor District Library. Veteran local master storyteller Laura Pershin Raynor presents a family-oriented program of tales about all sorts of tricksters and fools. Participants also make a wacky hat, which they can wear to FestiFools later this afternoon (see listing below). 2–3:30 p.m., AADL youth department story room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-8301.

★**Dinosaur Tours**: U-M Exhibit Museum. Every Saturday & Sunday. 30-minute docent-led tour of the museum's dinosaur exhibits. 2 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free, but limited to the first 15 people to sign up for each tour. 764-0478.

★**"Early Spring along the Raisin"**: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission. WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner leads a hike to explore the recently purchased Frieze property, a stone's

throw from Sharon Mills. Be prepared for mud. 2–4 p.m., Sharon Mills Park, 5701 Sharon Hollow Rd. (between Pleasant Lake and Sharon Valley rds.). Manchester. Free. 971-6337.

★**"Stephanie Pearl-McPhee Casts Off: The Yarn Harlot's Guide to the Land of Knitting"**: Ann Arbor District Library National Library Week. Knitting evangelist Stephanie Pearl-McPhee, creator of the popular blog Yarn Harlot, discusses her new book. She also signs copies of the book, which are available for purchase. 2–3:30 p.m., AADL multi-purpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4560.

★**Kids Open Stage: Oz's Music Environment**. Kids of all ages and all musical abilities are invited to play, sing, or just observe. 2–3 p.m., Oz's, 1922 Packard. Free; donations welcome. 662-8283.

★**Women Composers Forum**: U-M School of Music. Music students and faculty perform works by women composers TBA. 2–4 p.m., U-M Stearns Bldg., 2005 Baitz (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 761-0583.

★**"Concert of Ensembles"**: Ypsilanti Community Band. Jerry Robbins directs small ensembles drawn from this 70-member adult band in a program TBA. 2 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris

Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 654-9414.

★**"The Trial of Tom Sawyer"**: Young Actors Guild. March 30–April 1. Bayyinah Muhammad directs young actors in former EMU Theater of the Young director Virginia Koste's entertaining dramatization of Twain's classic book *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. Twain appears as one of the characters in this play, reminiscing about his boyhood on the Mississippi as his fictional creation comes to life in a series of adventures and misadventures that see him grow from an irreverent boy into a courageous young man. 2 p.m., Greenhills Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. \$7 (kids under 12, \$5). 913-9800.

★**"The Grand Duke"**: U-M Gilbert and Sullivan Society. March 29–April 1. David Zinn directs this accomplished local town-and-gown company in this satire about a penny-pinching grand duke who is reluctant to marry his betrothed, a wealthy but intimidating baroness, because he thinks she's only after his money. Ludwig, the local theater troupe leader, persuades the grand duke to wriggle out of the marriage by giving up his throne for a day, but he then seizes power for himself. The coup backfires when the troupe's prima donna invokes a clause in her contract guaranteeing her a perpetual role as leading

Act
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by Abe Burrows
directed by Cassie Mann

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April 22, 2007 2:00 p.m.
WCC Towsley Auditorium

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April 2007 EVENTS

Ann Arbor District Library

All events will take place in the Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room, unless otherwise noted.



Sunday 1 **The Yarn Harlot Returns!** Stephanie Pearl-McPhee discusses knitting and her new book, *Stephanie Pearl-McPhee Casts Off*

Monday 2 **National Poetry Month Reading**
Linda Gregerson, Susan Hutton & Khaled Mattawa



Tuesday 3 **Bright Nights™ Community Forum: Women's Health & Depression** moderated by Sheila Marcus, MD

Thursday 5 **One Hour to Better Job Interviews** with experts from Manpower
Please register: 327.4525 • Downtown 3rd floor aadlfreespace

Thursday 5 **Jonathan Lethem**, winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award, discusses his romantic farce, *You Don't Love Me Yet*



Monday 9 **Award-winning Holocaust Documentary: The Hidden Child**
Post-film discussion led by Jennifer White of Michigan Television • Not Rated

Tuesday 10 **Dr. Sharon Herbert** discusses the **UM Kelsey Museum of Archeology: Past, Present & Future**

Wednesday 11 AADL music expert **Richard LeSueur** discusses **The Art of the Cabaret Song** • Downtown 3rd floor aadlfreespace



Thursday 12 **The Study of What Makes Life Worth Living: An Introduction to Positive Psychology** with Christopher Peterson, PhD of UM

Monday 16 **Film: Arthur Miller's** award-winning *Playing For Time* with Vanessa Redgrave (Please note beginning time) • Not Rated

Monday 16 **American Red Cross** presents **When Tragedy Strikes: Preparing for Tornadoes, Power Outages and Other Emergencies** • Malletts Creek Branch



Tuesday 17 **National Library Week Concert**
The Yellow Room Gang

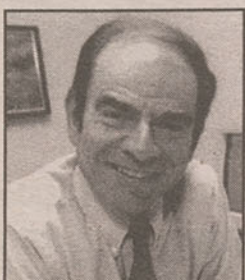
Thursday 19 **National Library Week** • Mystery authors **Joan Hess** and **Dorothy Cannell** discuss the craft of mystery writing

Friday 20 **Holocaust Remembrance Month** • **Berl Falbaum** discusses his award-winning book, *Shanghai Remembered: Stories of Jews Who Escaped to Shanghai from Nazi Europe*



Saturday 21 **Ann Arbor Family Fun Day** • A morning of song and dance with **Dance Gallery Studio** and the **Ann Arbor Youth Chorale**

Sunday 22 **National Library Week** • **2007 Director's Program**
What do you love about your downtown Library? All are invited to discuss what you like about the building, services and scope of the downtown AADL



Monday 23 **American Birth in the 21st Century** • This advocacy group of midwives, doulas and parents invites you to share your perspective on the birth experience

Tuesday 24 **Town Hall Meeting** • **Michael Finney** from Ann Arbor **SPARK** gives a progress update on the **Pfizer Strategic Working Action Teams (SWAT)**

For more information call 327.4200 or visit our website at aadl.org

1 SUNDAY continued

lady—meaning that Ludwig must take her as his grand duchess instead of the woman he loves. It's a lively show, very tuneful and full of witty banter. The cast includes Thomas Wolfson, Erica Ruff, David Beaulier, Margot Rood, Don Devine, Carrie Reid-Knox, Lawrence Bryk, and Kevin Casey. This production marks UMGASS's 60-year anniversary, and special anniversary events include a banquet (\$35) at 4 p.m. on March 31. 2 p.m., *Lydia Mendelssohn Theater, Michigan League*. Tickets \$16 & \$22 (seniors, \$10 & \$15; students, \$13 & \$18) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

"Playing for Time": U-M Theater Department. March 30–April 1 & April 5–8. The U-M celebrates the grand opening of its new Arthur Miller Theater with a production of Miller's drama, based on the autobiography of the half-Jewish Parisian singer Fania Fenelon, about the harrowing experience of the legendary women's orchestra in Auschwitz. Robert Chapel directs a cast of U-M drama students. Note: The Ann Arbor District Library screens the 1980 TV movie version of the play on April 16 (see FILMS listing). 2 p.m. (Sun.), 7:30 p.m. (Thurs.) & 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), Walgreen Drama Center Arthur Miller Theater, 1226 Murfin. All performances sold out. 764-2538.

"Candida": Performance Network Professional Season. Every Thursday through Sunday, March 8–April 15. See review, p. 65. John Seibert directs George Bernard Shaw's acerbic comedy about a charmingly independent Victorian woman who must choose between her husband—a genial middle-aged clergyman—and a teenage Shelleyan poet. Shaw intended the play as a sort of answer to Ibsen's *A Doll's House*, and the action turns on Candida's decision to select the weaker of the 2 men seeking her affection. The play's durable appeal lies both in the surprising inversions Shaw wrings from his hoary lovers' triangle and in his characteristic deftness in shifting the audience's sympathies, often with dizzying abruptness, from one character to another, as each in turn undercuts the other's idealistic self-delusions. Cast: Teri Clark Linden, John Lepard, Jacob Hodgson, Molly Thomas, Robert McFayden, and Martin Smith. 2 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Tickets \$25 (Thurs. & Sun.), \$30 (Fri., Sat. matinee, & Sun.), and \$35 (Sat. eve.). Discounts available for seniors. Tickets available in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. Half-price student-rush tickets available 1 hour before showtime. For reservations, call 663-0681; to charge by phone, call 663-0696.

★Ann Arbor–Motown Hash House Harriers. Every Sunday & occasional Saturdays. The local chapter of an unorthodox running club for people who like to make a game of running. Each runner's task is to follow a trail designed to be confusing. The usual result is that the lead (i.e., fastest) runners run the longest distance, so that runners of varying abilities complete the course in nearly the same time. Each run includes at least one pit stop (with beer & pop hidden along the way) and is followed by a trip to a nearby restaurant. 3 p.m., location TBA. Free. Weekly locations available at a2h3.org.

★U-M Prison Creative Arts Project. April 1, 3, 4, 5, 10, & 11. Talks and film screenings related to this ongoing art exhibit. Today: U-M art professor Janie Paul leads a discussion with artists from the annual exhibit. Also this month: a screening of *The New Asylums*, a PBS documentary about modern mental asylums in Ohio (April 3, 3222 Angell Hall, 6 p.m.), former prisoner Bobby Dellelo on "Torture in America's Prisons" (April 4, Michigan League Kalamazoo Room, 7 p.m.), Native American activist-advocate Stormy Ogden on "From Missions to Maximum Security: The Prison Industrial Complex in Indigenous California" (April 5, Michigan Union Pendleton Room, 7:30 p.m.), Southern Center for Human Rights director Lisa Kung on "The Practice of Freedom in the South" (April 10, Michigan League Michigan Room, 7:30 p.m.), and a closing reception (April 11, Duderstadt Center Gallery, 5:30–8 p.m.). 3 p.m., Duderstadt Center Gallery, 2281 Bonisteel Blvd. Free. 647-7673.

★Campus Band: U-M School of Music. Scott Bersaglia, Courtney Snyder, and John Zastoupil conduct this ensemble of nonmusic majors in Carter's *Overture for Winds*, Stuart's *Three Ayres from Gloucester*, Brahms's "Blessed Are They," Bernstein's *Danzon*, Zdechlik's *Chorale and Shaker Dance*, Van der Roost's *Suite Provencale*, Nelson's *Morning Alleluia*, Schumann's *Trauemerei*, Elgar's *Enigma Variations*, Grainger's *Australian Country Tune* and *Handel in the Strand*, and other works. 3 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0583.

★"Finding Direction": U-M Museum of Art. Lecture by photographer Lyle Gomes. In conjunction

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Nashville quartet Riders in the Sky performs a program of cowboy songs honoring Gene Autry at the Ark Apr. 2.

with the UMMA exhibit *Imagining Eden*. 3 p.m., Rackham Assembly Hall. Free. 764-0395.

★**"The Fire Within": Yourist Pottery Videos.** Screening of this video about potter M. C. Richards, a central figure in the early 50s New York avant-garde art scene. 4 p.m., *Yourist Pottery & Design Studio*, 1133 Broadway. Free. 662-4914.

★**Student Chamber Music Concert: U-M School of Music.** Music students perform string quartets and works for piano and strings. 4 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 764-0583.

★**"Arthur Honegger's King David": Concordia University.** Brian Altevogt conducts the Concordia Choir in this colorful 1921 oratorio—complete with an appearance by the Witch of Endor—that chronicles the significant events of the life of David. 4 p.m., Concordia Chapel of the Holy Trinity, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Free. 995-7537.

★**"Seven Chorale-Poems for the Seven Words of Christ on the Cross": St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.** St. Andrew's organist Deborah Friauff and St. Thomas Catholic Church organist Timothy Tikker perform this set of Good Friday chorales by Charles Tournemire, the early-20th-century French composer whose musical language blends elements of Impressionism with Gregorian and Hindu modes and Wagnerian chromaticism. Interspersed with scripture readings by veteran local actress Nancy Heusel. 4 p.m., St. Andrew's, 306 N. Division. Free. 663-0518.

★**"1st Annual FestiFools Parade": Main Street Area Association.** A parade of large handmade street puppets, accompanied by strolling musicians, jugglers, and performers TBA. If you'd like to join the parade, bring a costume, silly hat, musical instrument, or puppet. 4 p.m., Main at William to Main at Liberty. Free. 668-7112.

★**Ann Arbor Morris Dancers.** Every Sunday. All invited to try this boisterous, jingly English ceremonial dance said to have originated a millennium ago as a pantomime of war between Moors and Crusaders. Wear athletic shoes. 6-8 p.m., *Gretchen's House* barn, 2625 Traver Blvd. Free. 747-8138.

★**"A Circle of Drums": Drumwomyn.** Every Sunday. All women invited to gather for a drumming session. Bring your own drum. 7-8:30 p.m., WRAP Resource Center, 325 Braun Ct. \$10. 913-9670.

★**"Pops in Paris": Michigan Pops Orchestra.** John Zastoupil leads this ensemble of over 100 U-M students in an 11th-anniversary concert highlighted by selections from the Moulin Rouge cabaret and from the musicals *Beauty and the Beast* and *Les Misérables*. Also, Saint-Saens's *Danse Bacchanale*, Debussy's *Claire de Lune*, and more. 7 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$8 (students, \$5) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and at the door. 763-TKTS.

★**"A View from the Bridge": U-M Opera Theater Department.** April 1 & 3. Joshua Major directs U-M opera students in scenes from Pulitzer Prize-winning U-M composer Bill Bolcom's 1999 opera adapted from the Arthur Miller tragedy about the ruin of a Brooklyn longshoreman whose unconscious romantic feelings for his niece drive him to betray his honor. Bolcom's acclaimed score traverses a powerful emotional and stylistic landscape, from jazz to lyricism to dissonance. 7 p.m., Walgreen Drama Center Studio One, 1226 Murfin. Free but ticket required. 764-2538.

Susan Werner: The Ark. Talented young singer-songwriter known for a jazz-inspired, classically trained vocal style she describes as "pop illiterate," Werner writes incisive, vividly imagined songs in a variety of moods. Werner's recent CDs include *I Can't Be New*, a collection of piano-based, songbook-styled songs, and the brand-new *The Gospel Truth*, a collection of songs surveying contemporary attitudes toward the church. The songs on it range from neo-traditional bluegrass gospel and hand-clapping rousers to sharply observed comic songs to an up-tempo call-and-response number wondering whether there's a God at all. 7:30 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$17.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

U-M Ballroom Dancers. Every Sunday. Ballroom dancing to recorded music, including fox-trots, waltzes, cha-chas, rumbas, tangos, swing, and more. No partner necessary. Preceded at 7 p.m. by beginning lessons and practice. 8-10 p.m., Michigan League Ballroom (Apr. 1 & 8) and Michigan Union Pendleton Room (Apr. 15) & Ballroom (Apr. 22 & 29). \$3. 763-6984.

★**"High Octane": Improv Inferno.** Performances by Detroit area improv comics *Elemenopy*, *Simply Coney*, and *6 Month Suspension*. Alcohol is served. 9 p.m., Improv Inferno, 309 S. Main. \$5. 214-7080.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "The Namesake" (Jeff Lipsky, 2006). April 1-12. The son of Indian immigrants upsets his parents when he falls in love with an American blond. Based on the Jhumpa Lahiri novel. \$8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, \$6.75; MTF members, \$6). 668-TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

2 MONDAY

★**"Back Roads Ramble": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** Every Monday. Slow-paced ride, 12-35 miles, along dirt and gravel roads to the Dexter Dairy Queen or to Independence Lake. 9 a.m., meet at 960 Forest Rd. (off Country Club Dr.), Barton Hills. Free. 761-2885, 663-5060.

★**"Monday Chelsea Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** Every Monday. Slow/moderate-paced ride, 35-60 miles, to either the Munith or Stockbridge area. 9 a.m., meet at Aberdeen Bike & Fitness, 1175 S. Main, Chelsea. Free. (517) 285-6830.

★**Monday Club: Ann Arbor Salvation Army.** Every Monday. Drop-in social group for seniors age 55 & older. Every meeting includes a speaker, word game, craft, or activity. Also, Bible study and chair exercises. Coffee, tea, juice, and doughnuts served. Followed by lunch (\$1) and socializing. 10 a.m.-noon, Salvation Army, 100 Arbana. Free. 668-8353.

★**"Email Basics": Ann Arbor District Library.** Hands-on introduction to basic email features, including how to apply for an account, and opening, reading, and sending email and attachments. Note: This program is also offered at the Pittsfield (April 2, 7 p.m.), West (April 3, 1 p.m.), and Northeast (April 3, 7 p.m.) branches. 10 a.m. AADL Malletts Creek

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Museum of Art

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Lyle Gomes (American, born 1954) *San Francisco Presidio #7 (detail)*, 1989, gelatin silver print. Courtesy of the artist and the Halsted Gallery

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imagining eden: connecting landscapes

Shaping the natural world | March 31 – June 3



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Additional support for this exhibition has been provided by the University of Michigan's Office of the President, the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, Comerica Bank, Michigan Radio, and other generous partners.





The Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra



Dances in the Key of A²

Saturday, April 14 • 8 pm • Michigan Theater

Harbison > Remembering Gatsby

Haydn > Violin Concerto No. 1 *with Aaron Berofsky, violin*

Bernstein > West Side Story: Symphonic Dances

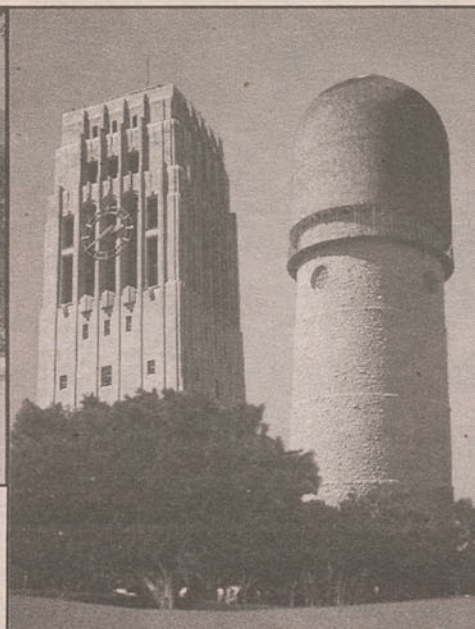
Rachmaninoff > Symphonic Dances

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Intersection: The A²SO in Ypsilanti

Sunday, April 15
8 pm
Pease Auditorium

Fanfare with the Ypsilanti High School Brass

Harbison > Remembering Gatsby

Mozart > Horn Concerto No. 1 *with Willard Zirk, French horn*

Gershwin > Rhapsody in Blue *with Joel Schoenhals, piano*

Rachmaninoff > Symphonic Dances

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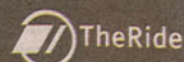


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Candida

Shaw at his wittiest
and wheeziest

George Bernard Shaw has a theater festival in Ontario dedicated to him, but that aside, he doesn't seem to have a large or enduring fan base anymore. Many people know him only obliquely through *My Fair Lady*, the musical adaptation of his stage play *Pygmalion*. Shaw, like his contemporary Oscar Wilde, can seem witty and wheezy at the same time: the wordplay blazingly fresh as it cuts and thrusts around subjects that seem a bit dog-eared.

Candida, first produced in 1898 and now playing at Performance Network, is a perfect example. Like all other playwrights of the early twentieth century, Shaw was fascinated with the question of the idle upper-middle-class woman and her possible redundancy. Progressive doctrines of the time dictated that she be treated as man's equal, but what did that mean, exactly? Who would bake the cookies? Hillary Clinton was to run aground nearly a century later trying to navigate this dilemma, and so it isn't surprising that Shaw, progressive socialist that he was, had trouble conceiving of a world in which women weren't spending a good deal of their time fussing over men—baking cookies, straightening neckties, and providing other soft, delicate touches—even though his



politics told him women should be doing more important things.

Candida is a woman fully caught up in running a large, busy household, which revolves around her husband, a popular socialist preacher. As the play begins, a young poet has fallen in love with her and wishes to re-

move her from what he sees as her demeaning and unromantic role as household commissar. *Candida*'s two men reveal themselves to be limited, amiable dolts, while *Candida* is a woman of ravishing charm and penetrating intellect who deftly and effortlessly puts them both in their place. It's funny and bracing. If this is Shaw's answer to Ibsen's *A Doll's House*, which tackled roughly the same territory, but tragically—well, Shaw totally cheated. If *Candida* actually existed the way Shaw created her, she'd have ended up prime minister, not happily brushing the lint off the Reverend Mr. Morell's greatcoat.

All the actors function smoothly in this production, and the pretty jewel-box set and bandbox costumes are delicious. Most notable is Teri Clark Linden, a perfectly gorgeous *Candida* with her incandescent smile, musical voice, and taut body alert to every actor's smallest movement. Shaw, of course, loved to wring meaning from accents, and it's a pity some of this production's weren't a little more carefully honed (maybe they will be eventually: I saw this performance in preview). Maybe using accents at all is a wasted exercise; they can't convey to an American audience the enormous wealth of class information they would convey to a British one. Otherwise, it's a clever, pretty period piece.

Candida runs Thursday–Sunday through April 15.

—Sally Mitani

2 MONDAY continued

Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free (AADL noncardholders, \$10). Pre-registration required. 327-8367.

★Weekly Rehearsal: Women's Chamber Chorus. Every Monday. All invited to join this independent 30-member local women's chorus to sing everything from Bach and Hungarian folk songs to madrigals and pop tunes. David Perample directs. 10–11:30 a.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh at Davis. Free to visitors (\$100 per semester membership dues for those who join). 213-3770, 663-5907.

★“Play Day for Babies”: Ann Arbor District Library. Every Monday through April 23. Play group for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. No older siblings. Note: Play days are also offered (through the week of April 23) at the Pittsfield (Tuesdays, 6:30–7:30 p.m.), Malletts Creek (Tuesdays, 10–11 a.m., & Thursdays, 6:30–7:30 p.m.), and North-east (Wednesdays, 10–11 a.m.) branches. 10:30–11:30 a.m., AADL, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-8301 (main library), 327-4200 (branches).

★Jewish Older Adults: Jewish Community Center. Every Monday. Activities begin at 11 a.m. with “Fitness Fun,” a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar, and the Writing Group (1–3 p.m.). Homemade buffet luncheon (\$3) available at noon. All invited. 11 a.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971-0990.

★Knitting/Crocheting Women's Group: Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Friday. All senior women age 50 & older invited to join others for knitting/crocheting and fellowship. Bring your own supplies. 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769-5911.

★Brown Bag Lectures: U-M Population Studies Center. April 2, 9, & 16. Talks from U-M and visiting scholars. Today: Princeton University sociology professor Sara McLanahan on “Fragile Families: The First Five Years.” Also this month: Ohio State University sociology professor Christopher Brown-ing on “The Social Ecology of Public Space: Street Activity and Violent Crime in Urban Neighborhoods” (April 9) and U-M population studies researcher Daniel Benjamin on “Social Identity and Preferences” (April 16). Noon, Institute for Social Research, 426 Thompson. Free. 763-1414.

★Bridge: U-M Turner Geriatrics Center. Every Monday & Friday. All seniors invited to play bridge.

No partner required. Refreshments. 1–4 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998-9353.

★Mah-Jongg: Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Monday. All seniors age 50 & older invited to play this popular tile game. 1–2:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769-5911.

★Table Game Day: Ann Arbor Senior Center. All seniors age 50 & older invited to play games like mah-jongg, bridge, chess, tile rummy, and Skip-Bo. 1–3 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769-5911.

★“Paved Roads Country Roads Ride”: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Every Monday. Fast-, moderate-, and slow-paced training ride, 18–30 miles, along country roads west of town with an optional start at Pleasant Lake Party Store. Hilly Schneider Road is included in the longer routes. 5 p.m., meet at Royster Clark, 885 Parker Rd. at Pine Cross Lane (just south of Jackson Rd.), Scio Twp. Free. 426-5116.

★Avis Farms Toastmasters. April 2 & 16. Members give speeches and are critiqued by their audience. A chance to develop confidence in speaking publicly. 5:15–7 p.m., 900 Avis Dr., conference room C, off S. State. Free to visitors. Dues: \$20 every 6 months (after a onetime nonrefundable fee of \$27). For information, call Adrienne at 332-1200.

★“Smoothie King Recovery Ride”: Ann Arbor Velo Club. Cyclists invited to meet club members on this easy, low-key ride, 20–30 miles. 6 p.m., meeting location TBA. Free. 827-2792.

★“Teahouse of the Almighty”: Ann Arbor District Library/Neutral Zone Book Club. All teens in grades 9–12 invited to discuss this National Poetry Series-winning collection of poems by Patricia Smith (see 3 Tuesday listing). Participants receive a free copy of the book. 6:30–8 p.m., AADL 4th-floor conference room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. Space limited; preregistration required. 327-8301.

★“Let's Worship and Praise Him in Dance”: Bethel AME Church. Performances by the Wings of Bethel, directed by U-M dance professor Robin Wilson, and other liturgical dance groups from Ypsilanti and Detroit. 6:30 p.m., Bethel AME, 900 John A. Woods Dr. Free. 663-3800.

★“Making Herbal Lotions”: Herb Study Group. Lecture-demo by French Garden Creations (Portland, Michigan) owner Colleen French. 7 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. Preregistration requested. 998-7061.

★Huron Valley Toastmasters. Every Monday. Members give speeches, receive helpful feedback from experienced members, and learn through observing and practicing. A chance to develop confidence in speaking publicly. Note: Different Toastmasters chapters meet every Wednesday & Thursday (see listings). 7–9 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Occupational Ed. Bldg., room 158, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free to visitors. 972-4619.

★Weekly Rehearsal: Out Loud Chorus. Every Monday. Beginning to advanced singers invited to join this chorus for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their friends. 7–9:30 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 1400 W. Stadium. Free. 973-6084.

★Mike Farrell: Shaman Drum Bookshop. This actor-turned-activist, best known for his role as B. J. Honeycutt on *M*A*S*H*, reads from his memoir *Just Call Me Mike: A Journey from Actor to Activist*. Signing. 7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662-7407.

★Linda Gregerson, Susan Hutton, and Khaled Mattawa: Ann Arbor District Library. Readings by these 3 local poets. Gregerson is a U-M English professor who recently published *Magnetic North*, a collection of poems characterized by bold formal experiments that take their inspiration from a wide range of subjects, from the Nazi occupation of Poland to the Nobel Prize in Physiology. Hutton is a U-M creative writing grad, and Mattawa, a U-M English professor who has translated 5 volumes of Arabic poetry, writes dense, emotionally intense lyrical poems that typically contrast, balance, and fuse divergent experiences and subject matter. In conjunction with National Poetry Month. 7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4560.

Dream Group. Every Monday. All invited to join veteran local social worker Rebecca Mullen to discuss their dreams from Jungian, Buddhist, and other spiritual perspectives. 7:30 p.m., location TBA. Donation. 662-5925.

★Ann Arbor Smocking Group. Informal “sit ‘n’ stitch” gathering for those interested in the English art of embroidery known as smocking and in heirloom sewing. All invited. 7:30 p.m., location TBA. Free. 663-7867.

★Large Ensemble Meeting: Ann Arbor Recorder Society. All beginning and advanced players of the recorder and other early instruments invited. Directed by local flutist Corinne Hillebrandt. Music provided; bring your own music stand. 7:30–9:30 p.m., St. An-

plays

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Schedule For Spring
Spraying and Fertilizing

- Trimming & Removals
- Spraying & Fertilizing
- Disease Diagnosis • Stump Removal
- Crane Service • Firewood
- Woodchips

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Measha Brueggergosman soprano
J.J. Penna and William Bolcom piano

THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 8 PM
 Hill Auditorium

Style and substance unite for memorable performances whenever Measha Brueggergosman takes the stage. This Hill Auditorium recital features songs of Reynaldo Hahn, Ernest Chausson, Hugo Wolf, and assorted cabaret songs of William Bolcom. Measha's sparkling personality and voluptuous voice are sure to make this an evening of pure delight.

Sponsored by **CFI Group**
Class Farnell International

Media Partners **WGTE 91.3 FM, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, and Michigan Chronicle/Front Page.**

A Prelude Dinner precedes this performance. For reservations, call 734-764-8489.

This is a CLASSICAL KIDS CLUB concert and a NETWORK event.



Together and Solo
John Williams and John Etheridge guitars

FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 8 PM
 Rackham Auditorium

Two of the world's most accomplished guitarists join forces to explore more than four centuries of music with a groundbreaking duo project, a unique and sublime meeting of classical and steel-string guitars featuring both solos and duets.

Jerusalem String Quartet

SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 4 PM
 Rackham Auditorium

"Musical electricity may be unfathomable, but one thing is for sure — they have it." (*The Strad*) The Jerusalem String Quartet returns to Rackham Auditorium for an encore performance.

PROGRAM
 Haydn Quartet in f minor, Op. 20, No. 5 (1772)
 Barber Quartet for Strings, Op. 11 (1936)
 Tchaikovsky Quartet No. 1 in D Major, Op. 11 ("Accordion") (1865)

Supported by Jane and Edward Schulak.

Media Partners **WGTE 91.3 FM, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, and Detroit Jewish News.**

This is a CLASSICAL KIDS CLUB concert.



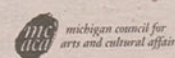
Bach's Mass in b minor
Netherlands Bach Society

THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 8 PM
 Hill Auditorium

Since its first performance of Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* in 1922, the Netherlands Bach Society has become one of the most admired performers of Bach's music. Led by early music specialist Jos van Veldhoven and comprised of musicians who are experts in authentic performance practices, the ensemble makes its UMS debut with a performance of Bach's *Mass in b minor*, one of the composer's most magnificent works.

Supported by Barbara Furin Sloat.

Media Partner **WRCJ 90.9 FM.**



A2 CITY NEWS



The Newsletter for the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan

Spring 2007 • Vol 1., No. 1

Letter from the City Administrator



Welcome to the first edition of the City of Ann Arbor's A2 City News, which aims to provide community members

with important news, service updates and safety information. Along with the city's Web site (www.a2gov.org), the various public meetings and Ann Arbor's own Community Television Network, we hope you will find this newsletter is a useful way to stay connected with your city. In fact, many of the articles you will read inside are also featured in more detail on our Web site.

Local city government has a unique relationship with its citizens. Not only does the City of Ann Arbor provide basic public and safety services, but we also provide services that can significantly influence our residents' quality of life.

The city's mission reads: The City of Ann Arbor is committed to providing excellent municipal services that enhance the quality of life for all through the intelligent use of resources while valuing an open environment that fosters, fair, sensitive and respectful treatment of all employees and the community we serve. Ann Arbor is a wonderful place to live, visit and do business. Recently, Ann Arbor has received recognition for being one of the most livable cities as well as one of the smartest cities in the U.S. The City of Ann Arbor takes great pride in this recognition, and our employees strive to provide a level of service you would expect and de-

serve from your local government. In addition, we look for better and more efficient ways to inform the public of important community information, issues and challenges facing our city. I hope you find the information provided in this issue useful. I encourage you to forward me your suggestions and opinions to help us evaluate and improve this newsletter. Please e-mail your comments to feedback@a2gov.org.

Best regards,

Roger Fraser
City Administrator

A2 gets the gold

The Governor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health and Sports recently presented the City of Ann Arbor with the 2006 Promoting Active Communities Gold Award. The city, in partnership with the Downtown Development Authority, Ann Arbor Public Schools, Ann Arbor Transportation Authority and the Ann Arbor Area Chamber of Commerce, was recognized for its commitment to programs, public policies and community design that encourages residents to integrate physical activity into their daily routines. Ann Arbor was the only community to achieve the gold level in 2006.

Examples of "active-living" projects include Curb Your Car Month; addition of on-road bicycle lanes; and the continued development of the Border-to-Border Trail along the Huron River. □

Good 2 Know

Pay taxes online

Ann Arbor residents can pay property taxes online at www.a2gov.org/Taxpayment. Processing or service fees are not charged with this online payment method, and the secure transaction is conducted through the city of Ann Arbor's banking partner, J.P. Morgan Chase. Launched last December, the city hopes this is a substantial accomplishment toward its goal to deliver high quality services to residents.

Brightest and best

The City of Ann Arbor has recently appeared on several favorable lists. Forbes magazine ranks Ann Arbor as the third smartest of 200 U.S. cities, following Boulder, Colo., and Bethesda, Md. The ranking is based on the percentage of people 25 years and older who have at least a bachelor's degree (that's 47.9 percent of Ann Arbor residents).

CNN/Money Magazine has rated Ann Arbor one of the top 25 U.S. cities in which to live. And, according to Bicycling Magazine, Ann Arbor is among the 21 best cities for cyclists. The city's Web site was also recognized with an A- grade on the National Policy Research Council's e-Government report card, in collaboration with Computerworld Magazine. Only four other government Web sites in Michigan received top grades.

Partnerships help protect Huron River

Ann Arbor was founded along the Huron River because it provided water, transportation and power. Today, the river is still vital and part of what makes Ann Arbor special.

Keeping the river clean takes partnership, so City Council and staff have been working closely with neighboring communities, Drain Commissioner Janis Bobrin, and the Huron River Watershed Council. This partnership has brought more than \$5 million

see GOOD 2 KNOW, page 2

INSIDE:

Sustaining Our Future:
2008 budget considerations

2

Municipal Center
resolution approved

4

Further information on featured topics, and up-to-the-minute news, can be found at www.a2gov.org.

Sustaining Our Future: 2008 budget considerations

During the budget development process in 2005, a two-year fiscal plan was developed to give city staff and Council more time to focus on long-range financial and strategic planning efforts. Today, city staff embarks on creating a two-year financial plan for 2008 and 2009 and once again addressing the financial challenges facing our community and local government. Below is a summary of key financial challenges facing the city. To learn more about the City Administrator's recommended 2008 budget, please attend a Town Hall meeting in April, visit the city's Web site or watch Community Television Network for town hall meeting replays.

Financial challenges:

- **Healthcare costs:** The city continues to be financially strained by the rapid increase in health-care costs for its active and retired employees. In addition to the rapid cost increases, a new accounting standard (GASB 45) is set to take effect next year. This change will require the city to pre-fund its retiree health benefits based on an actuarial contribution rate or face putting a growing liability on its books.

- **Tax revenue:** Prior to 2007, the city was not levying the maximum allowed for the General Operating Millage. The Headlee roll-back legislation has now reduced the permissible maximum such that the city will incur a declining General Operating levy each year going forward. The Headlee and Proposal A legislation continues to restrict revenue growth so that it's less than the city's expense growth.

- To propose a balanced budget to City Council for 2008, city staff has been asked to provide recommendations that cut each unit's expenditures by 6 percent, net of projected cost increases.

Attend a town hall meeting!

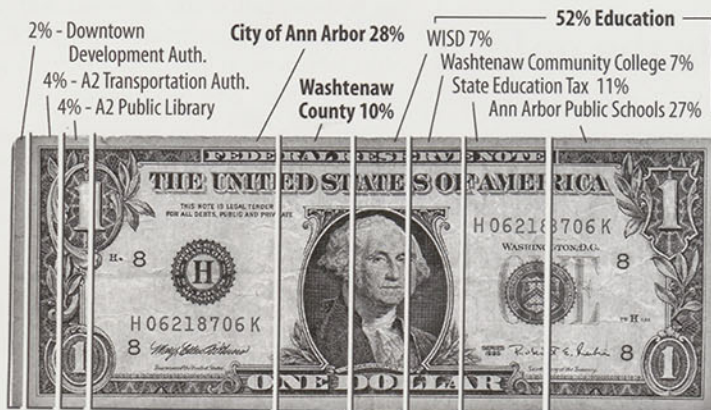
City administrators and elected officials invite the public to review and discuss Ann Arbor's proposed fiscal year 2008 municipal budget at a town hall meeting:

- **Wednesday, April 4** at Clague Middle School (2616 Nixon Road) at 6:30 p.m.

- **Thursday, April 5** at Slauson Middle School (1019 W. Washington) at 6:30 p.m.

Each session provides an opportunity for the City Administrator to share financial challenges, summarize steps that have been taken to create a more efficient Ann Arbor government, and identify

WHERE YOUR PROPERTY TAX DOLLARS GO:



service impacts resulting from existing financial pressures.

The meetings will be televised on Community Television Network.

For ongoing updates:

By the time this publication reaches your home, more updated information will already be available. For the latest budget information, town hall meeting locations and Community Television Network replay times, visit the city's Web site at www.a2gov.org/ourtown or call 734.996.3020. □

continued from GOOD 2 KNOW, page 1

in grants and loans to protect the river and the city's "neighborhood creeks": Allen's, Fleming, Malletts, Millers, Swift Run and Traver creeks.

In 1998, the city, Pittsfield Township and Commissioner Bobrin developed a Malletts Creek Restoration Plan. Later, the University of Michigan and Pfizer joined to make improvements to Millers and Allen's creeks.

Citywide, progress can be seen in the 25 neighborhood rain gardens, Mary Beth Doyle Wetland Preserve, and Olson Park where visitors can see porous pavement, native landscapes and natural stormwater treatment.

Water finds its own path, so partnerships are crucial to protecting our precious river.

MAP Award

The Michigan Association of Planning recently honored the City of Ann Arbor's 2006 Northeast Area Plan with an Outstanding Planning Project Award.

The Northeast Area Plan makes land-use recommendations for most of the last 500 acres of vacant land in Ann Arbor. Recommendations include innovative land-use techniques to promote environmental sustainability, such as:

- Ensuring land and infrastructure are used efficiently, mass transit is supported, and diversity of housing is provided, including affordable housing
- A strong emphasis is placed on pedestrian-oriented design
- Specific language is used regarding the protection of natural systems

The "Upland-Green" project at Plymouth Road and Upland Drive is one example of how the plan has helped facilitate change. The project is replacing an auto salvage yard with a mixed-use center that includes retail, restaurant, office and residential uses; it is slated to open toward the end of 2007. □

Get connected

Soon all residents of and visitors to Ann Arbor and all areas of Washtenaw County can have limitless information at their fingertips. The City of Ann Arbor is partnering with the county, 20/20 Communications and other area municipalities and organizations for Wireless Washtenaw, an exciting initiative to bring Internet and e-mail access to all.

Information and weekly updates can be heard by calling 20/20 Communications at 734.973.2020, extension 1. Details about the initiative can also be found on the city's Web site at www.a2gov.org. The project goal is for the entire county to have wireless access by the end of 2007. □



Ann Arbor is on TV!

Community Television Network has provided Ann Arbor residents with an outlet to express opinions, talents and creative endeavors since 1973. City meetings, city and community information and public programming can be found on channels 16, 17, 18 and 19 on the Comcast Cable system in the greater Ann Arbor area. CTN also provides a television production studio, videotape editing equipment, and camcorders free of charge to Ann Arbor residents and non-profit organizations. Training schedules and CTN program information is available at www.a2ctn.org or by calling 734.769.7422.

Allen Creek Greenway Task Force report available online

Greenways and trail systems are used by growing numbers of walkers and cyclists each year. In September 2005, with the goal of expanding local opportunities, City Council appointed a nine-member Allen Creek Greenway Task Force "to develop a recommendation for a new greenway" in the Allen Creek valley to the west of downtown, one that will connect with the city's existing Huron River Greenway and the county's Border-to-Border Trail.

see ALLEN CREEK, page 4

Help replant Tree Town

The recent Emerald Ash Borer infestation has left many of our city's former tree-lined streets filled with stumps. The City of Ann Arbor is in the process of removing thousands of ash and dead trees from the street extensions and creating partnerships to help with tree replanting efforts.

Global ReLeaf of Michigan, a local nonprofit, is assisting the city in coordinating Tree Team volunteers to help plant and maintain street trees by organizing tree-planting events and managing donations for tree planting projects. In 2006, Global ReLeaf coordinated 10 neighborhood volunteer Tree Teams to plant nearly 200 street trees in the City of Ann Arbor, with tree stock funded by the Elizabeth Dean Fund.

Volunteers interested in forming neighborhood or school-area Tree Teams and those interested in becoming Tree Team sponsors are encouraged to phone Global ReLeaf of Michigan at 800.642.7353 or go online to www.globalreleaf.org. Grants have been secured for the initial Tree Team trees this spring, but more funding is essential to help reach the community's goal of replanting 5,000 public trees in the next three years. The city's overall tree replanting strategy is posted on the Web at www.a2gov.org/trees. □



A2 City News is published by the City of Ann Arbor. Please send comments to: feedback@a2gov.org or call 734.996.3155.

A2 CITY GOALS

Ensure the long-term financial health and stability of the city.

Support a safe and reliable municipal infrastructure.

Ensure a high quality of life, while balancing economic development with the preservation and conservation of natural resources.

Foster a community with respect for diversity and the open exchange of ideas.

Deliver high quality city services in a cost-effective manner.

CITY COUNCIL

Go to the city's Web site for contact information for council members (www.a2gov.org/CityCouncil/index.html) or to determine your ward (www.a2gov.org/CityAdministration/Clerks/elections.html); or contact the City Clerk's office, second floor of City Hall, at 734.994.2725.

MAYOR

John Hieftje (D) JHieftje@a2gov.org

WARD 1

Robert M. Johnson (D) RJohnson@a2gov.org

Ronald Suarez (D) RSuarez@a2gov.org

WARD 2

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Joan Lowenstein (D) JLowenstein@a2gov.org

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WARD 5

Christopher S. Easthope (D) ... CEasthope@a2gov.org

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CITY ADMINISTRATION

Roger Fraser, City Administrator

Jayne Miller, Community Services Area Administrator

Tom Crawford, Financial and Administrative Services Area Administrator

Sue McCormick, Public Services Area Administrator

Barnett Jones, Police Chief and Safety Services Area Administrator

A2 CITY CONTACT INFORMATION

Customer Service Center	734.994.2700
..... E-mail: customerservice2@a2gov.org	
Fire Department.....	Non-emergency: 734.994.2772
Parks & Recreation	734.994.2780
..... E-mail: parks&rec@a2gov.org	
Planning & Development	734.994.2674
..... E-mail: building@a2gov.org	
Police Department	Non-emergency: 734.994.2911
..... E-mail: police@a2gov.org	
Trash Collection, Recycling, etc.	734.99.GREEN

Serve, protect, inform

The City of Ann Arbor Safety Services Unit consists of the fire department, police department and the office of emergency management. In addition to keeping our community safe and protecting our quality of life, Safety Services is also dedicated to providing citizens with valuable resources and opportunities to get involved.

As one example, the police department's page on the City of Ann Arbor Web site, www.a2gov.org, is packed with valuable, up-to-date information:

- Department phone numbers
- Weekly crime bulletins and statistics
- Crime prevention tips
- Amber Alert updates
- How to request records such as a police report and local criminal history
- Neighborhood Watch programs
- A kids' page
- And much more

Residents without Internet access can visit the police department on the first floor of City Hall or can call the main phone number at 734.994.2875 for information. □

continued from ALLEN CREEK, page 3

Released this spring, recommendations for the Allen Creek Greenway were developed through an interactive community process involving public lectures, design workshops, community discussions and public exhibits. The report's findings will help guide public policy when opportunities for redevelopment along the former creek become available. Specific design proposals are suggested for city-owned sites at 415 W. Washington structure (across from the new YMCA) and 721 N. Main (near Summit) and the parking lot at First and William (across from Liberty Lofts). Please find the Allen Creek Greenway Report on the Web at www.a2gov.org/greenway or at the downtown Ann Arbor District Library. □

New Ann Arbor Municipal Center resolution approved

On Jan. 8, City Council approved a resolution for the 15th District Court and Ann Arbor police services to be housed in a new building on the Guy C. Larcom Jr. Municipal Building lot (City Hall's current site). The City of Ann Arbor currently leases space in the Washtenaw County Courthouse for the 15th District Court; this nonrenewable lease expires Dec. 31, 2009.

As this publication goes to press, an architectural services contract will be considered by Council at their March 5, 2007, meeting. Upon contract approval, a series of public engagement meetings will take place during the next six months to provide opportunities for residents to view and give input on the design elements of this new facility.

In the meantime, staff, led by City Administrator Roger Fraser, will proceed with planning and design under Council's directive. Instruction is to:

- Give preference to locating the police and courts building on the east side of the Larcom building
- Utilize the Downtown Development Authority as an essential partner in maximizing available parking
- Adequately provide for public involvement in the process

When construction is complete, the Fifth Avenue/Huron Street site, as a whole, will be known as the Ann Arbor Municipal Center.

For more information and recent project developments, visit www.a2gov.org/Livingin/PoliceCourtsFacility.htm. □

INFORMATION RESOURCES

FIND IT HERE!

The following list highlights additional city resources located online at www.a2gov.org or in hard-copy format in the lobby of City Hall. Copies of city's major plans can also be viewed in the City Clerk's office on the second floor of City Hall.

- Tree Town Log monthly calendar
- WasteWatcher quarterly newsletter
- Water Matters quarterly newsletter
- Parks and Recreation program brochure: **Spring/summer program registration is going on now!**

If you know a city resident who requires this newsletter in an alternative format, please contact the city communications office at feedback@a2gov.org or 734.996.3155.

Persons with disabilities are encouraged to participate in public meetings. Accommodations, including sign language interpreters, may be arranged by contacting the City Clerk's office at 734.994.2725 or by written request addressed to the City Clerk's office, 100 N. Fifth Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48104. Requests need to be received at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

University of Michigan • Ann Arbor

Trinity Irish Dance Company


Mark Howard artistic director

FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 8 PM

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 8 PM

Power Center

Chicago's Trinity Irish Dance Company dazzles audiences with the hard-driving percussive power, lightning-fast agility, aerial grace, and awe-inspiring precision of its dancers. Ranging in age from 18 to 28, Trinity dancers undergo years of rigorous training evident in every perfectly paced spin, leap, and click, making them a lethal powerhouse of speed and sound.

Sponsored by 

Supported by Robert and Pearson Macek.

Funded in part by the Performing Arts Fund.

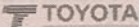
Media Partners Metro Times and WEMU 89.1 FM.

SPECIAL FAMILY PERFORMANCE!

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1 PM

Power Center

Kids of all ages are welcome to join the Trinity dancers for a special one-hour performance as part of the 4th Annual Ann Arbor Family Days. For more information, visit www.annarbor.org/familydays.

06/07 Family Series Sponsored by 

Los Folkloristas

SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 4 PM

Rackham Auditorium

This seven-member ensemble provides an introduction to authentic music from Mexico and Latin America, using over 100 traditional and contemporary instruments including dried butterfly cocoons, turtle shells, and a Yaqui water drum over the course of their performance. Part of Ann Arbor Family Days (visit www.annarbor.org/familydays for more information).

Funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Media Partners WEMU 89.1 FM and Michigan Radio.

FREE EDUCATION EVENT

Measha Brueggergosman

LECTURE: The "Art" of the Cabaret Song

Richard LeSueur, Ann Arbor District Library Music Specialist

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 7 PM

Ann Arbor District Library Downtown Branch,
3rd Floor Meeting Room

Classical music expert Richard LeSueur will offer his expertise and insight, discussing the music written by important composers both for cabaret clubs or in cabaret style. Listening to the songs of Schoenberg, Satie, Poulenc, Britten, Bolcom and others will provide an introduction to this wonderful style, embraced by composers for a multitude of reasons.



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THE FORD HONORS PROGRAM

12TH ANNUAL GALA

This year's Ford Honors Program, UMS's largest fundraiser for its education programs, will honor cellist, conductor and humanitarian Mstislav Rostropovich with the UMS Distinguished Artist Award.

The Gala will take place in the auditorium and atrium of the spectacular Biomedical Science Research Building, and will include valet parking, a scrumptious dinner catered by Opus One, an evening of music, and a heartfelt tribute. The program will be a personal, intimate, and emotional tribute to Rostropovich, who, due to illness is taking a sabbatical from all professional engagements in 2007, as well as to the thousands of children and adults who benefit from UMS' educational activities.

All proceeds from the event support UMS's nationally-acclaimed arts education program. Funds raised from the Gala directly impact over 10,000 schoolchildren in southeastern Michigan, giving them, in many cases, their first opportunity to experience the world of live performance. Their experiences are enhanced by arts-based professional development opportunities for educators, one-of-a-kind curriculum, and a variety of in-school experiences.

For more information, contact Lisa Rozek by phone at 734-764-8489 or e-mail at lrozek@umich.edu.

The Ford Honors Program Gala is made possible by



Ford Motor Company Fund



The Purple Rose Theatre Company
Box Office: (734) 433-ROSE (7673)
www.purplerosetheatre.org

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DIRECTED BY GUY SANVILLE

APRIL 5 THROUGH JUNE 2, 2007

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Ann Arbor Area community foundation

For good. For ever.

Annual Meeting
and
Forum on Community Philanthropy
Sponsored by DaimlerChrysler Corporation

Keynote Speaker
Jack Hopkins, President & CEO
Kalamazoo Community Foundation

Wednesday, April 25, 5:00 – 7:00 P.M.

Four Points Sheraton
3200 Boardwalk Drive
Ann Arbor

R.S.V.P.
734-663-0401 or www.rsvp.aaacf.org



The Blackbird Theater performs the Michigan premiere of *In the Heart of America*, Naomi Wallace's controversial play about the Gulf War, at the Blackbird Theater Apr. 6, 7, 13–15, & 20–22.

2 MONDAY continued

drew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free to visitors (\$30 annual dues). 213-3172.

★**Scott Holden: U-M School of Music.** This Brigham Young University piano professor performs a program TBA. 8 p.m., U-M Stearns Bldg., 2005 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0583.

★**"Mad about Chamber Music": Kerrytown Concert House.** April 2, 9, & 16. The last 3 of 6 spring concerts featuring U-M Music School and Residential College students. Today: Music School students perform trios and quartets by a variety of composers. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 769-2999.

Riders in the Sky: The Ark. This innovative, often comical Nashville-based quartet of ace musicians has revitalized the genre of western cowboy song. Inspired by the 30s group the Sons of the Pioneers, the Riders include 2 former Ann Arborites, Fred LaBour and onetime Herb David staffer Doug Green. They specialize in elaborate harmonizations of cowboy folk songs, western ballads, and sentimental songs, and this year their shows are a tribute to Gene Autry. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$20 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

Pub Quiz: Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. Every Monday. Local high school English teacher Geoff Cost throws out questions for anyone to answer at this popular weekly trivia fest. Prizes. 9–11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. \$5 team fee. 665-2968.

FILMS

Melange Subterranean Bistro. "Monday Night Movie & Dinner." Every Monday. Dinner (salad, entree, & dessert) followed by screening of a classic movie. Menu items range from \$5 to \$30. Tonight: *The Departed* (Martin Scorsese, 2006), the Oscar-winning remake of the Hong Kong crime thriller *Internal Affairs* set in Boston. Leonardo DiCaprio, Matt Damon, Jack Nicholson, Martin Sheen, Alec Baldwin. Space limited; reservations recommended. 222-0202. Melange (314 S. Main), 6:30 p.m. MTF. "The Namesake" (Jeff Lipsky, 2006). See 1 Sunday. Mich., times TBA. U-M Max Kade Film Screenings. "Rosenstrasse" (Margarethe von Trotta, 2003). When the German Jewish husbands of Aryan wives are sent to a detention camp, their wives band together to confront the SS. Based on a historical event. German, subtitles. Free. 764-5018. Max Kade House (Baits II, 1440 Hubbard, North Campus), 7–10 p.m.

3 TUESDAY

★**"Whitmore Lake Brunch Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** Every Tuesday. Slow/moderate-paced ride, 20–39 miles, to a nearby town for brunch. 9 a.m. (Apr. 3 & 10) & 8:30 p.m. (Apr. 17

& 24), meet at the Park & Ride lot on 9 Mile Rd. at US-23, exit 54, Whitmore Lake. Free. (810) 231-4335 (Apr. 3 & 10), 449-2026 (Apr. 17 & 24).

Social Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Tuesday & Wednesday (different locations). All seniors age 50 & older invited to play bridge. No partner required. 9:30–11:30 a.m. (Tues.), Brookhaven Manor, 401 W. Oakbrook (off S. Main north of Eisenhower), & 12:45–3:30 p.m. (Wed.), Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. 25¢ contribution for prizes. 769-5911.

★**Preschool Storytimes: Ann Arbor District Library.** Every Tuesday. Stories and songs for kids age 2 & up (accompanied by an adult). Note: These storytimes are also offered at the Malletts Creek (Wednesdays, 10–10:30 a.m.), Pittsfield (Thursdays, 7–7:30 p.m., and Fridays, 10–10:30 a.m.), and North-east (Thursdays, 10–10:30 a.m.) branches. 10–10:30 a.m., AADL youth department story room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-8301 (main library), 327-4200 (branches).

★**Scrabble: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** Every Tuesday. All seniors age 50 & older invited to play this popular word game. 10 a.m.–noon, Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769-5911.

★**Jewish Older Adults: Jewish Community Center.** Every Tuesday. The program begins with "Arts and Crafts" (10:30 a.m.–noon), during which seniors are invited to bring a project they are working on or join a group project. Also, on April 10, you can bring paper, ribbons, and other materials to make a greeting card. Instruction provided. Followed by mah-jongg (noon–2:30 p.m.). 10:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971-0990.

★**"Identity, Translation, and Political Culture in Global Feminisms": U-M Institute for the Humanities Brown Bag Lecture.** Talk by U-M psychology and women's studies professor Abby Stewart. Noon–1:30 p.m., 1022 Thayer, 202 S. Thayer. Free. 936-3518.

★**Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Chinese Studies.** April 3 & 10. Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Free sandwiches, cookies, & coffee served. Today: U-M psychology professor Twila Tardif discusses "Emotion Regulation in Chinese, Japanese, and American Preschoolers: What Kids Can Teach Us." Also this month: Yale University comparative literature professor Haun Saussy discusses "Zhuangzi as Work and Membrane" (April 10). Noon–1 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-6308.

★**"Book Exchange": Newcomers Coterie Club of Ann Arbor.** All women who have recently moved or returned to the Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti area are invited to bring up to 5 books to swap. Preceded at 11:30 a.m. by lunch (pre-registration required). 12:30 p.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. Free. Low-cost child care arrangements available in advance only. 426-3132. U-M Softball Doubleheader vs. WMU. 3 p.m., Alumni Field (behind Ray Fisher Stadium), S. State

at Hoover. \$4 (youths age 12 & under, \$2; U-M students, free). 764-0247.

★**"The Ramayana in Women's Bodies":** U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies. Talk by U-M Asian languages and culture lecturer Yulisa Mastati and Sreyashi Dey, a local classical Indian dancer whose troupe performs a dance based on the Ramayana on April 13 (see listing). 3 p.m., Walgreen Drama Center Arthur Miller Studio Two, 1226 Murfin. Free. 764-0352.

★**"Jack Smith: Queer Theater and the History of Performance Art":** U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender. Talk by Village Voice performance art critic C. Carr. 5-6:30 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 764-9537.

★**"Big Sky Ride":** Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Every Tuesday. Moderate-paced ride, 20-35 miles, along flat, relatively quiet picturesque roads south of Ann Arbor. 5:30 p.m., meet at York Baptist Church, 1220 Stony Creek Rd. at Platt. Free. 971-5763.

★**"Kids Martial Arts":** Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers. All kids ages 6-12 invited to have some fun doing martial arts exercises. 6-7 p.m., Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers Studio B, 2007 S. State. Free. Preregistration requested. 945-8602.

★**"Huron River Ride":** Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Every Tuesday. Slow/moderate-paced ride, 18-40 miles, to Dexter and back. 6 p.m., meet at Rudolf Steiner School, 1655 Newport Rd. Free. 424-9765.

★**Ann Arbor Front Runners.** Every Tuesday & Thursday. Gay, lesbian, and straight runners invited to choose a distance of 3-5 miles to run with Front Runners members. 6:30 p.m., meet at Furstenberg Park, off Fuller Rd. across from Huron High School. Free. 741-1763.

★**"Knit Happens":** Ann Arbor Stitch 'n' Bitch. Every Tuesday. All knitters invited to bring their current projects to work on and swap knitting tips. 6:30-8:30 p.m., location TBA. Free. 945-3035.

★**Common Thread.** April 3 & 17. All invited to meet members of this local knitting group and exchange tips. 7-9 p.m., Arborland Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948.

English Country Dancing: Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. Every Tuesday. Historical and traditional English dancing. Today: Don Theyken and Ray Bantle call to music by David West, Donna Baird, Tammy Corwin-Renner, and Phil Chen. Also this month: caller Alisa Dodson with music by Childgrove (April 10), callers Corwin-Renner and Dan Blim with music by West, Baird, and Betsy Foote (April 17), and Arlene Kindel, Shirley Harden, and Neil Epstein call with music by Childgrove (April 24). All dances taught. No partner needed. Dress comfortably and bring flat, nonslip shoes (running shoes OK). 7-9:30 p.m., Chapel Hill Condominium clubhouse, 3350 Green Rd. \$6 (students, \$4; children age 13 & under, free). 665-7704.

★**"All Things Spring!":** Mothers and More. All mothers—including single, adoptive, and lesbian mothers—invited to join a group discussion. Also, Everyday Cook in Kerrytown hosts a cooking demo & dinner (\$35) at 7 p.m. on April 19 (preregistration required at jrobilotto@mindspring.com) for club members and visitors. 7-9 p.m., location TBA. Free. 786-3875.

★**"Women's Health and Depression":** Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by U-M psychiatry professor Sheila Marcus. Followed by a panel discussion with U-M Depression Center faculty members Heather Flynn and Helen Kales, U-M OB/GYN professor Yolanda Smith, and U-M OB/GYN social worker Emily Gutmann. Q&A. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4560.

★**Ann Arbor Area Writers Group:** Arborland Borders. Every Tuesday. See review, p. 103. All local writers invited to bring samples of their writing to read and discuss. Observers welcome. 7-9 p.m., Borders computer section, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 665-8194.

Grand Slam Semifinals: Ann Arbor Poetry Slam. Local poets compete for one of 6 spots in the Grand Slam finals, held next month. Participants are all the 1st- and 2nd-place finishers at the monthly slams during the past year. The top 4 Grand Slam finishers receive cash prizes and will be the Ann Arbor team at the 2007 National Poetry Slam, held this year in August in Austin, Texas. Also, open-mike readings. 7-10 p.m., Club Heidelberg (above the Heidelberg restaurant), 215 N. Main. \$5. For information, call Larry Francis at 426-3451.

★**Patricia Smith:** Ann Arbor District Library/Neutral Zone Book Club. This 4-time National Poetry Slam winner, who has also written 2 one-woman plays and a companion book to the PBS series Africans in America, reads from her new book, Tea-house of the Almighty, a National Poetry Series-winning collection of passionate, bluesy poems celebrat-

EARTH DAY FESTIVAL

Sunday, April 22

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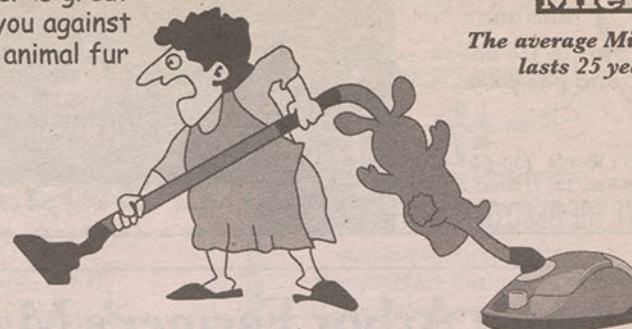


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Sunday, May 20 • Sunday, June 17

Sat & Sun, July 14 & 15 • Sunday, Aug. 19

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fiction

Jonathan Lethem Cool people

Jonathan Lethem's cool. His novels and stories take on everything from detective fiction to comic book heroes. He is very willing to write about big themes—the possibilities or impossibilities of individualism in an era of irony and commodity, race in America, and so on—and he does it in prose that is lively, often very funny, and frequently impossible to ignore. A couple of years ago he was even awarded one of the MacArthur "genius" grants. He knows Brooklyn about as well as anyone, and *Motherless Brooklyn* and *The Fortress of Solitude*, his last two novels, both take place there.

But now he's back with something different. *You Don't Love Me Yet* is a much thinner and quicker novel about a California rock band just about ready to make it but not quite over the professional divide. The band members still have day jobs as zoo attendants, in marginal avant-garde art studios, or as clerks in porn shops. Their Los Angeles, although it possesses the expected surface glitter, isn't nearly as alive as Lethem's Brooklyn. Perhaps that's an indication of Lethem's real imaginative allegiance, but one could argue that it's a true picture of the place where these characters almost live.

In the best scene in the book, Lethem describes the band's one brilliant performance, at a party staged as a kind of alternative art experience. One of the attendees observes,

"You weren't sure what anything had to do with anything else, but cool people were certainly involved." And that's reason enough for just about any of the actions in the book.

Cool people are involved.

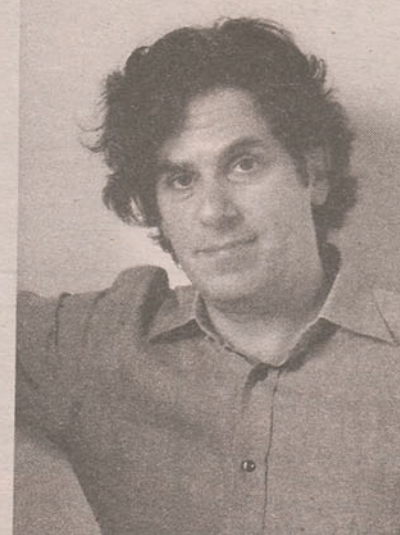
If that were the extent of it, the book would be easy to dismiss. Luckily, Lethem has written, in the guise of a rock 'n' roll novel, a book that is in many ways a chronicle about the nature of artistic inspiration. The most interesting things in *You Don't Love Me Yet* are the passages where the troubled lives and various influences of its characters come together to make one memorable song.

The talents of the band's near-catatonic composer combine with words heard on a complaint line and get projected by an anorexic singer who has a thing for kangaroos. The result might be genius. The song is bigger than the band: "It's a fixture in their lives, a given. They can't remember where it came from because the truth is that the song was there all along, waiting to be given the air, allowed to breathe."

Of course, we never really hear the song, and that might be why all rock 'n' roll novels end up leaving us a little cold. We need the music. But Jonathan Lethem has come as close as anyone to getting down the spirit, and making it available to those of us who might not be quite so cool.

Jonathan Lethem reads from *You Don't Love Me Yet* at the Ann Arbor District Library (downtown) on Thursday, April 5.

—Keith Taylor



3 TUESDAY continued

ing the liberating power of poetry. 7-9 p.m., *Neutal Zone*, 310 E. Washington. Free. 327-8301.

★**Sweet Adelines County Connection.** Every Tuesday. All women invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local 40-member barbershop harmony chorus. 7-10:30 p.m., UAW Local 898 Hall, 8975 Textile Rd. (west of Rawsonville Rd. off I-94), Ypsilanti. Free to visitors (\$20 monthly dues for those who join). 480-8843.

★**"A View from the Bridge":** U-M Opera Theater Department. See 1 Sunday. Tonight's performance is followed by a discussion with composer William Bolcom. 7 p.m.

★**Huron Valley Harmonizers Chapter of SPEBSQSA.** Every Tuesday. All male singers invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. 7:30 p.m., Stony Creek United Methodist Church, 8635 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. Free to visitors (\$130 annual dues for those who join). Newcomers should call in advance for instructions. For information, call Greg Humbel at 769-1463.

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Treetown Community Chorus.** Every Tuesday. All invited to join this fun-loving independent local mixed chorus to sing mostly familiar tunes, along with some serious music, in various genres. David Perampale directs. 7:30-9 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh at Davis. Free (\$80 per semester membership dues). 213-3770.

Track Workout: Ann Arbor Track Club. Every Tuesday. Runners (and walkers) of all ages and abilities welcome. Now in their 27th year, the Track Club's workouts are a popular means for runners to train and be timed at various distances. 7:30 p.m.

(doors open at 7 p.m.), U-M indoor track, S. State at Hoover. U-M pass (\$5 per day) required. 663-9740.

★**Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Club.** Every Tuesday & Saturday. All invited to practice their juggling skills. Beginners welcome. 7:30-9:30 p.m. (Tues.) & 2-4 p.m. (Sat.), location TBA. Free. 761-1115.

★**Ann Arbor Camera Club.** April 3 & 17. Tonight: local photographer George Lavoie discusses "Improving Your Pictures through Better Composition." Also this month: local photographers Matt Callow, Bill Bresler, and Michael Myers discuss "Alternative Photographic Methods: Toy and Pinhole Cameras, Their History and Use Today" (April 17). 7:30 p.m., Forsythe Middle School, room 111, 1655 Newport Rd. Free (\$15 annual dues for those who join). 327-4781.

★**Introduction to Anthroposophy: Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America.** Informal monthly talk on our relationship to the cosmos as described by Rudolf Steiner. This month: a talk on "Eurythmy" by St. Clair Shores eurythmist Claudia Fontana on the origins and nature of this art of making music and the spoken word visible through movement. 7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes. Free. Wheelchair-accessible. 485-3764.

★**Spanish Readers Group: Nicola's Books.** Continued from last month. All invited to join a discussion, in Spanish, of *La Catedral del Mar*, Ildefonso Falcones's historical novel set in 14th-century Barcelona. 7:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

Annual Holy Week Concert: Bethel AME Church. U-M music professor emeritus Willis Patterson conducts the *Our Own Thing Chorale* in a program of spirituals, works by African American composers, and Easter music. 7:30 p.m., Bethel AME, 900 John A. Woods Dr. Freewill donation. 769-4437.

★German Speakers' Round Table. Every Tuesday. All German speakers invited for conversation. 8 p.m., Grizzly Peak Brewing Company, 120 W. Washington. Free admission. 665-2931.

"Firefly Funnies": The Firefly Club. Showcase of top local stand-up comics, along with some improv comedy. 8-11 p.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. \$3. 665-9090.

The Alternate Routes: The Ark. Guitar-fueled indie rock trio from Bridgeport, Connecticut. The band's 2006 debut CD, *Good and Reckless and True*, is a collection of compact, melodic tunes with dark, intensely personal lyrics exploring a wide palette of emotions. A big hit in its debut last fall. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$12.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

★"Triple Double Trivia": The Arena Sports Grille and Bar. Every Tuesday. All invited to try a wide-ranging trivia quiz for such prizes as T-shirts, hats, and gift certificates. Bonus points awarded for "stupid human tricks" like drinking beer upside down, dancing to Michael Jackson songs, or inserting an entire fist into your mouth. 10 p.m., The Arena, 203 E. Washington. Free. 222-9999.

FILMS

MTF. "The Namesake" (Jeff Lipsky, 2006). See 1 Sunday. Mich., times TBA.

4 WEDNESDAY

"Gallup Gatherings": Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Wednesday. All seniors age 55 & older invited for socializing, nature walks, and other activities. Coffee & baked goods provided. 10-11:30 a.m., Gallup Park canoe livery (west side of Huron Pkwy.). \$5. 662-9319.

★"Storytime with Mr. James": Arborland Borders. Every Wednesday. Borders staffer "Mr. James" reads stories and leads a craft project for toddlers. Also, raffle. Today: Jane Yolen's *Here's a Little Poem*. Also this month: H. A. Rey's *Curious George Flies a Kite* (April 11), Rosemary Wells's *Max Counts His Chickens* and John Himmelman's *Chickens to the Rescue* (April 18), and Julia Gran's *The Big Bug Surprise* and Liz Pichon's *The Very Ugly Bug* (April 27). 11 a.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 449-9394.

Noon Lecture Series: Kempf House Center for Local History. Every Wednesday. Today: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum director Bob Grese discusses "Hills, Sledding, and Learning about Nature: 100 Years at U-M Botanical Gardens and Arboretum." Also this month: former Washtenaw County Historical Society president and AASO executive director Mary Steffek Blaske and AASO artistic director Arie Lipsky discuss "The Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra: Past, Present, and Future" (April 11), U-M pharmacy professor Cary Johnson discusses "Ann Arbor's First Postage Stamp: A New Perspective" (April 18), and popular local historian Wylan Stevens discusses the findings of his recent research about "Ann Arbor in 1892" (April 25). Noon-1 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. Admission \$2 (Kempf House members, \$1). 994-4898.

Wednesday Cooking Sessions: Kitchen Port. April 4, 11, & 18. With local chefs and cooks. Today: Margio Bianche makes "Not Your Mother's Pot Pies." Also this month: U-M chef Pat Wright fixes asparagus (April 11), and Decadent Delight pastry chef-owner Bryant Stuckey prepares cupcakes (April 18). 12-1 p.m., Kitchen Port, 283 Zeeb Rd. \$8. Preregistration recommended. 665-9188.

★Toastmasters General. Every Wednesday. Members give speeches and are critiqued by their audience. Note: Different Toastmasters chapters meet every Monday & Thursday (see listings). Noon-1 p.m., F206 Veterans Hospital, 2215 Fuller Rd. Free to visitors. 769-7100, ext. 5678.

★"World Wide Web Tools": Ann Arbor District Library. Hands-on introduction to web basics, including how to surf and search the web. Note: This program is also offered at the Pittsfield (April 4, 7 p.m.) and Northeast (April 18, 7 p.m.) branches. 1 p.m., AADL West Branch, Westgate shopping center. Free (AADL noncardholders, \$10). Preregistration required. 327-8367.

★Chess: U-M Turner Geriatrics Center. Every Wednesday. All seniors invited to play chess. Refreshments. 1-4 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998-9353.

U-M Baseball vs. CMU. 3 p.m., Ray Fisher Stadium. \$5 (youths age 12 & under, \$3; U-M students, free). 764-0247.

★"The Cost of Forgiveness: After South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission": U-M School of Public Policy. Talk by poet, writer, and peace activist Yazir Henri, a former anti-apartheid activist and officer on the military wing of the African

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4 WEDNESDAY continued

National Congress who currently directs the Direct Action Center for Peace and Memory in Cape Town, South Africa. 4-5:30 p.m., 1120 Weill Hall, 735 S. State at Hill. Free. 615-5312, 764-3490.

★**"Images and Translations: Greek, Etruscan, and Beyond":** U-M Classical Studies Department Jerome Lecture Series. Last in a series of 5 lectures by NYU classics professor Larissa Bonfante, co-founder of the U.S. Section of the Institute of Etruscan Studies. Today's topic: **"Final Journey: The Underworld."** 4 p.m., Kelsey Museum Classroom, 434 S. State. Free. 764-0362.

★**Scrabble: The Firefly Club.** Every Wednesday. All invited to join Firefly owner Susan Chastain and other local Scrabble enthusiasts to play this popular word game. Bring a board and tiles, if you have them. 5-8 p.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. Free. 665-9090.

★**"West Side Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** Every Wednesday. Slow/moderate-paced ride, 22-25 miles, and a slow-paced ride, 12-17 miles, to the Dexter Dairy Queen and back. Now in its 29th year, this ride is a favorite with newcomers and casual riders. 6 p.m. sharp, meet at Sweepster parking lot, 2800 N. Zeeb Rd. Free. 426-5116 (longer ride), 665-4552 & 761-2659 (shorter ride).

★**"Saline Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** Every Wednesday. Slow/moderate-paced ride, 30 miles or more, south to Milan and then west to the area around Britton-Macon. 6 p.m., meet at municipal parking lot on Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. south of Michigan Ave., Saline. Free. 645-5840.

★**Wine Tasting: Paesano's Restaurant.** Every Wednesday. A chance to sample 5 different Italian wines each week, in an informal and friendly setting, with a selection of appetizers. 6-7 p.m., Paesano's, 3411 Washtenaw. Space limited; reservations recommended. \$20. 971-0484.

★**Ann Arbor Toastmasters Club.** Every Wednesday. Members give speeches and are critiqued by their audience. Note: Different Toastmasters chapters meet every Monday & Thursday (see listings). 6:15-7:45 p.m., 101 Science Hall, Concordia University, 4090 Geddes. Free to visitors. Dues: \$30 semiannually. 994-1479.

★**T'ai Chi Introduction: Peaceful Dragon School.** A t'ai chi instructor demonstrates this easy, meditative exercise. Followed by Q&A. 6:30-7:30 p.m., 1945 Pauline Blvd. suite B. Free. 741-0695.

★**"Artisan Salami/Charcuterie Tasting":** Morgan & York. Morgan & York shop manager Bill McAlister hosts a tasting of traditional handmade salami and dry-cured meats and discusses how to select, store, and serve them. 6:30-8:30 p.m., Morgan & York, 1928 Packard. \$35. Preregistration required. 662-0798.

★**Ann Arbor Bridge Club.** Every Wednesday. Each 2-person team plays 2 or 3 hands against a dozen or so other pairs during the evening. Players at all levels welcome. If you plan to come without a partner, call in advance or arrive 20 minutes early to arrange for one. 7-11 p.m., Walden Hills Clubhouse, 2114 Pauline at Maple. (Park on the north side of Pauline.) \$3 per person. 971-7530.

★**Children's Storytime: Barnes & Noble.** Every Wednesday & Thursday. Storytelling programs and craft activities for kids. This week's story: Diana Roome's *Tulliver's Tunnel*. Also this month: Catherine Friend's *The Perfect Nest* (April 11 & 12), Helene Jordan's *How a Seed Grows* (April 18 & 19), and Joshua Prince's *I Saw an Ant on the Railroad Track* (April 25 & 26). 7 p.m. (Wed.) & 11 a.m. (Thurs.), Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

★**Huron Valley Model Builders.** All invited to join a show-and-tell discussion. Bring your models built from scratch or from kits, including cars, tanks, boats, airplanes, spacecraft, figures, and more. 7 p.m., Lakeview Mobile Home Park clubhouse, 9910 Geraldine, Ypsilanti Twp. (take I-94 to Huron St. exit and head south, turn left on Textile, turn right on Bunton). Free. 481-1044.

★**Works-in-Progress Series: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** April 4 & 11. Featured writers read from their current work. Tonight: readings by EMU English professor Stefan Kiesbye and *His Word Junkies*, a group of Kiesbye's students. Kiesbye's *Next Door Lived a Girl* is a tale, set in the demoralized world of a working-class town in post-WW II Germany, about the dark transformation of young boys into young men. "Next Door Lived a Girl" is both laconic and feverish, with German adolescent boys poking their sometimes violent way into the world," says novelist Charles Baxter. "The novella has a fascinating combination of everyday domestic life and subsurface." 7-9:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★**Tung Hui-Hu: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** This San Francisco poet, a U-M creative writing grad, reads from *Mine*, his new collection of resonant, blunt, sharp-minded poems tracing the interconnectedness of individual lives with history and geography. "This fresh and unexpected poet extends the lyric into the social space without losing any of song's intensity or mystery, so that these casually elegant, affecting poems feel as interior as they are worldly," says poet Mark Doty. Signing. 7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662-7407.

★**Opera Workshop: U-M School of Music.** April 4 & 5 (different programs). Joshua Major directs U-M music students in opera scenes. Today: scenes from 20th-century operas (5 p.m.) by Strauss, Barber, Britten, Poulenc, and the contemporary American composers Jack Beeson and Thomas Pasatieri, and early operas (7 p.m.) by Mozart, Handel, the 17th-century Italian composer Francesco Cavalli, and the 17th-century French composer Jean-Baptiste de Lully. 5 & 7 p.m., McIntosh Theater, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0583.

★**Visitors Night: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club.** All invited to check out the trains whizzing around on the club's big, elaborate layout, housed in a depot restored by the club. 7:30-10 p.m., Michigan Central Depot, 3487 Broad St., Dexter. Free. 426-5100.

★**Shamanic Journeys: Magical Education Council.** Every Wednesday. Using special postures, participants enter a meditative state to the beat of a shaman's drum and discuss their experiences afterward. 7:30 p.m., Inter-Cooperative Council Education Center, 1522 Hill (in the carriage house behind the co-op buildings). Free. 699-8101.

★**"Tenebrae": St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.** The St. Andrew's Adult Choir performs the ancient funeral service for the crucified Messiah. The program of chant and polyphonic settings is highlighted by Tomas Luis de Victoria's *Lamentations of Jeremiah*. 7:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free. 663-0518.

★**Campus Symphony Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** Benjamin Vickers directs this ensemble of nonmusic majors in a performance of Tchaikovsky's Symphony no. 5 in E Minor featuring the 2007 Concerto Competition winner, pianist George Chi Wang Fong. Also, the Prelude to Wagner's *Die Meistersinger von Nuernberg* and Brahms's Piano Concerto no. 2 in B-flat Minor. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0583.

★**The Lindenbergh High School Big Band: The Firefly Club.** Reinhard Sieber directs this 26-member big band from Saline's sister city in Germany. The band's repertoire includes swing, blues, ballads, and Latin jazz classics from the big band era, along with rock and funk. While in town, the band also performs a free show at Saline High School at 7:30 p.m. on April 12, and is the featured guest at a farewell dinner (\$12) at the Tri-County Sportsmen's Club (reservations required at 429-4063) on April 13, 5:30-11 p.m. 8 p.m.-midnight, Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. Tickets \$5 at the door only. 665-9090.

★**"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase.** Every Wednesday. Performances by up to 12 aspiring area stand-up comics. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. \$5 in advance and at the door. 996-9080.

FILMS

MTF. "The Namesake" (Jeff Lipsky, 2006). See 1 Sunday. Mich., times TBA.

5 THURSDAY

★**"Spring Migration Walk in Nichols Arboretum":** Washtenaw Audubon Society. Every Thursday. All invited to join club members for a walk through the Arb to look for resident birds and early migrants, which begin arriving in earnest toward the end of April. 9 a.m. departure (early afternoon return), meet at the cul-de-sac at the end of Riverview off Geddes. Free. 994-3569.

★**"Jackson County Brunch Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** Every Thursday. Moderate-paced ride, 25-30 miles, along the less traveled roads of scenic Jackson County. 9 a.m., meet at Cavanaugh Lake Park, Cavanaugh Lake Rd., Waterloo Recreation Area, 3.2 miles west of Chelsea. Free. 994-5908.

★**"Spring Unfolding Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** Every Thursday. Beginner-friendly slow-paced ride, 10-15 miles, around Ann Arbor neighborhoods to explore the delights of local gardens, parks, and cafes. 10 a.m., meet at Gallup Park Canoe Livery, 3000 Fuller Rd. (west side of Huron Pkwy.). Free. 971-5763.

★**Senior Group: Ann Arbor Community Center.** Every Thursday. Presentations by community members. This month, Peaceful Dragon School director Wasantha Young leads "Focus on Health and Fitness." Doctor's note required. Remainder of April

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U-M Jazz Showcase

Academia after dark
at the Ark

In a little over a century, jazz has traveled from the cathouses of Storyville to concert halls and universities, with some colorful episodes en route. The academic environment is safer, healthier, and more dignified, but sometimes the results are somewhat predictable and the recipes lack a pinch or more of cayenne. It must also be said that contemporary jazz requires technical sophistication that is difficult to come by without formal studies, and thus the days of the autodidacts may soon be over. Jazz education has become a large business, and curricula at major universities differ in their profiles, competing nationally and even internationally for the best students. Over the last decade or so, the U-M program has definitely become one of the best in the country, with a unique take on things.

The U-M jazz program has two defining characteristics: it covers a broad range of styles and periods, and the teachers are all active performers as well as academics. All of this will be on parade on Thursday, April 5, when faculty and students perform together at the U-M Jazz Showcase at the Ark. The centerpiece of the evening will be the seven-part *Sweet Time Suite*, composed by the eminent trumpeter Kenny Wheeler and played by a large ensemble, featuring student soloists Justin Walter, Matt Endahl, Tucker Antell, Daniel Schlein, and Derek Barber. This is an ambitious work, with many shifting tempos and textures; it was first recorded by an all-star ensemble, with the soprano voice of Norma Winstone lending a very specific sound to some sections. It will be interesting to hear how these young players tackle this difficult and subtle work.

The big band will also take on an original arrangement of Michael Jackson's "Burn This Disco Out" by student Brad Phillips, and Michael Gacetta will present an arrange-



Ellen Rowe.

ment of the evening's standard, "Over the Rainbow." Pianist Matt Endahl will lead a more avant-garde student group that goes by the name Symbology, and the contemporary strain will continue when trumpeter and teacher Mark Kirschenmann leads the improvising Creative Arts Orchestra.

The faculty will be featured in smaller settings. Pianist and composer Ellen Rowe will present . . . *And Miles to Go*, her septet written in honor of her late friend Molly Sap, who struggled with lymphoma. In addition to her own piano, the piece will feature the expressive flugelhorn of professor Ed Sarath, whose playing and composing offer a rare combination of romanticism and the most adventurous trends in improvised music. There will also be pieces featuring three other teachers in the program: the expressive trombonist Dennis Wilson, the versatile and subtle percussionist Michael Gould, and Donald Walden, one of my favorite tenor saxophonists and a marvelous composer as well.

This is not a typical university jazz student concert; it is full of unusual music and original compositions, as well as improvisation. It will be a fascinating evening for anyone interested in both the past and the future of jazz.

—Piotr Michalowski

programs TBA. 10 a.m., Ann Arbor Community Center, 625 N. Main St. Free. 662-1099.

★**"Advanced Email":** Ann Arbor District Library. Hands-on introduction to advanced email features, including an address book, options and filters, sending an attachment, and more. Note: This program is also offered at the West (April 16, 1 p.m.), Pittsfield (April 16, 7 p.m.) and Northeast (April 17, 7 p.m.) branches. 10 a.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free (AADL noncardholders, \$10). Preregistration required. 327-8367.

★**Thursday Lunch Bunch:** Jewish Community Center. Every Thursday. A weekly program of activities primarily for seniors. The program begins at 10 a.m. with "Fitness Fun," a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar. At 11 a.m., a Current Events discussion group. At 1 p.m., a cultural or educational program. This week: "Shalom Y'All," a presentation by JCC Sol Drachler program students on their recent trip to visit Jews in the South. Also this month: local social worker Marti Bombyk discusses "Civic Engagement in the Neighborhood: Building Community from the Ground Up" (April 12). Jewish Family Services volunteer coordinator Elizabeth Solomon discusses "Making Volunteerism Meaningful" (April 19), and U-M Center for Judaic Studies research associate Judith Laikin Elkin, founder of the Latin American Jewish Studies Association, discusses "Argentine Jews/Jewish Argentines" (April 26). The day concludes at 2:15 p.m. with a meeting of the Senior Literary Group, a book discussion group led by U-M Dearborn English professor emeritus Sidney Warschausky. Also, at noon, a homemade dairy lunch (\$3 with reservation, \$4 without reservation and for nonseniors). 10 a.m.-3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971-0990.

★**"What's Happening in South America?":** U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Every Thursday, April 5-May 10. A series of talks on social and political developments over the past 50 years in Bolivia, Chile, Argentina, Venezuela, Peru, and Brazil. Today: U-M Spanish professor Javier Sanjines discusses "Understanding the Social Movements Taking Place in Bolivia." Also in the series: U-M Residential College Spanish lecturer emerita Eliana Moja-Raggio on "Chile, to the South of the World: An Overview of the Last 45 Years in Chile's Political and Cultural Life" (April 12), U-M Health System clinical social worker Susan Sefansky on "Living in Argentina: The Tango and Troubles" (April 19), U-M anthropology and history professor Fernando Coronil on "Hugo Chavez—Bolivian Revolution in Historical Context" (April 26), Siena Heights University art professor Sister Barbara Cervenka on "Peru: Women's Work and Women's Art" (May 3), and U-M Romance languages and history professor Paulina Alberto on "The Black Mother: Afro-Brazilian Perspectives on Brazil's Racial Democracy" (May 10). 10-11:30 a.m., Best Western Conference Center, 2900 Jackson Rd. \$45 (members, \$30) for the 6-lecture series, \$25 (members, \$10) per lecture. Memberships are \$15 a year. 998-9351.

★**Children's Hour: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** Every Thursday. Shaman Drum staff read picture books for kids ages 2-6. 11 a.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662-7407.

★**"Hikikomori and Other Pathologies: A New Way for Understanding Japan's 'Lost Decade':"** U-M Center for Japanese Studies. Talk by University of California visiting scholar Michael Zielenziger. Noon-1 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-6307.

★**"Gender and Global Health":** U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender. Talk by U-M

public health professor Rachel Snow. Noon-1:30 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 764-9537.

★**Gifts of Art: U-M Hospitals.** April 5, 12, 19, & 26. Performances by area and guest artists. Today: classical music by U-M music students. Also this month: modern dance by U-M dance students (April 12), and classical music by pianist Angela Yun-Yin Wu (April 19) and the cello ensemble Cellochan (April 26). 12:10 p.m., U-M Hospital courtyard, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. (off Fuller). Free. 936-ARTS.

★**ACBL Bridge:** Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Thursday. All seniors age 50 & older invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. No partner required. 12:30-4 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$4 (nonresidents, \$5). 769-5911.

★**"Access Soapbox":** Ann Arbor Community Television Network. Every Thursday. A chance to express your views, discuss your activities, or announce upcoming events on the local public access station (cable channel 17). Participants are free to talk about anything they wish within CTN guidelines: no direct solicitation of funds, no lottery information, and no material that is obscene, defamatory, invasive of personal privacy, or infringing on copyrights or trademarks. Limited to 5 minutes, each segment features 1 or 2 speakers (with no more than 2 graphics) who talk directly to the camera. Production crew provided by CTN. Access Soapbox shows are aired daily for 1 week, beginning on Sunday. 2-7 p.m., CTN studio, LL114 Edison Center, 425 S. Main. Free. Reservations accepted Tues.-Fri. of the week preceding your appearance. 769-7422.

★**"Spoiling Public Spaces: Exhibiting Racist Artifacts in a Public Museum":** U-M Museum Studies Exhibiting Controversy Colloquium. Talk by David Pilgrim, curator of the Jim Crow Museum of Racist Memorabilia at Ferris State University. 4 p.m., Michigan League Henderson Room. Free. 936-6678.

★**"Bombay: The Imagination of the Modern City":** U-M Center for South Asian Studies. Talk by Princeton University Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies director Gyan Prakash. 4 p.m., Clements Library Main Room, 909 South University. Free. 764-5261.

★**"Women at the Margins: Law and Policy":** U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender. April 5, 12, & 19. Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Today: University of Missouri criminal justice professor Kristi Holsinger discusses "Feminist Perspectives on Female Offending: Understanding Women's and Girls' Pathways to Crime." Also this month: University of Colorado sociology professor Joanne Belknap on "Girls in the Juvenile Justice System" (April 12), and Oklahoma sociology professor Susan Sharp on "Capital Punishment and Gender Differences in Crime and Deviance" (April 19). 4 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 764-9537.

★**Senior Seder:** Jewish Community Center. All seniors and their families invited for dinner with a program of songs and music, readings, and reflections on the meaning of freedom. 4-6 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$15. Reservations required. Transportation available. 769-0209.

★**Colloquia: U-M Astronomy Department.** April 5 & 10. Talks by visiting scholars. Today: University of Wisconsin astronomy professor Linda Sparke on a topic TBA. Preceded at 3:45 p.m. by cookies and tea in 845 Dennison. Also this month: University of California physics professor Joel Primack on "Galaxy Mergers: Simulations, Observations, and Active Galactic Nuclei" (April 10). 4:10 p.m. (Apr. 5) & 3 p.m. (Apr. 10), 807 Dennison, 500 Church St. Free. 764-3440.

★**"Planning Healthy Meals":** U-M Turner Geriatrics Center. Turner nutritionists show how to prepare healthy, well-balanced meals from the new 4 food groups: whole grains, legumes, vegetables, and fruit. Taste samples. 4:30-6 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. Preregistration required. 998-9353.

★**"Roman Towns in the Tiber Valley":** U-M Classics Department. Lecture by University of Cambridge classical archaeology professor Martin Millett. 5 p.m., 2175 Angell Hall. Free. 936-6099.

★**David Leavitt:** U-M English Department. Fiction reading by this University of Florida English professor, a novelist whose books include *Arkansas*, *While England Sleeps*, *Equal Affections*, and *The Lost Language of Cranes*, a tale of strained familial relationships that a *Vogue* reviewer praises for a blend of "pathos, anger, and camp wit [that] rises to a subtle urban lyricism." His newest novel, *The Indian Clerk*, is due out in September. 5 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 615-3710.

★**"Ferocious Beauty: Genome":** U-M School of Art and Design Penny Stamps Lecture Series. The renowned modern dance choreographer Liz Lerman, founder of the Liz Lerman Dance Exchange in Washington, D.C., presents this multimedia dance theater

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Quartet in A Minor, op. 132

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Leoš Janáček

Ludwig van Beethoven



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5 THURSDAY continued

work, created over the course of a 4-year collaboration between her company and 34 genetic scientists, that explores the implications of genetics discoveries. A *Chicago Sun-Times* critic calls *Ferocious* "beautiful, richly imaginative, hugely ambitious," dubbing it "science for poets" or "cinematic biochemistry." 5 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 936-2082.

★"Cross Town Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Every Thursday. Fast/moderate-paced ride, 15-35 miles, on dirt roads toward Chelsea and back. Cyclocross, mountain, or wide-tire touring bike recommended. 6 p.m., meet at 5960 Rollingwood Dr. (off Cedar Ridge via Park from Zeeb south of Jackson). Free. 474-7983.

★"Chelsea Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Every Thursday. Slow/moderate-paced ride, 20-30 miles, to either Dexter, Grass Lake, or the Waterloo Recreation Area. 6 p.m., meet at the north side of Aberdeen Bike & Fitness, 1178 S. Main, Chelsea. Free. (517) 285-6830.

★ASL Storytelling: Ann Arbor Deaf Club. April 5 & 19. All invited to tell or observe stories told in American Sign Language by ASL storytellers Terri Fear, Phil King, and others. 6-7:30 p.m., Washtenaw County Library Learning Resource Center, 4135 Washtenaw. Free. 971-6059.

"Peace Cafe": Michigan Peaceworks. Performance by Joe Reilly, a local singer-songwriter whose songs draw on blues, Native American, and other traditional American idioms and address ecology, religion, and love. Followed by a planning discussion for a nationwide demonstration for reducing carbon emissions. Q&A. 6-8 p.m., Corner Brewery, 720 Norris, Ypsilanti. \$5 suggested donation. 761-5922.

★"Women Running Fit": Two Dogs Running. Every Thursday. All women invited to run a different course, 2-6 miles, each week. Directed by a certified running coach. Maps provided. Runners who accumulate 50 miles receive a T-shirt from Running Fit. Men also invited to run. 6:30 p.m., Running Fit, 123 E. Liberty. Free. 369-2492, 569-5016.

★Reiki: Center for Intuitive Health. Local reiki master Ray Golden discusses this healing technique and gives minitreatments. 7 p.m., location TBA. Free. 663-9724.

★Weekly Meeting: Washtenaw Toastmasters. Every Thursday. All invited to develop public-speaking skills and self-confidence in a warm, friendly environment. Note: Different Toastmasters chapters meet Mondays and Wednesdays (see listings). 7-9 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Education Bldg., room 182, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free to visitors. Dues: \$35 semiannually (after a onetime nonrefundable fee of \$20). 678-2256.

ACBL Bridge: Women's City Club. Every Thursday. All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. No partner required. 7 p.m., Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. \$5. 761-6691.

★Cohousing Community Meeting: Nicola's Books. A cohousing resident gives a short talk about area cohousing communities, which consist of condo developments designed to foster an old-fashioned sense of neighborhood and preserve open space. Also, Sunward Cohousing (424 Little Lake Dr. off Parkland from Jackson between Wagner & Zeeb) presents a cohousing talk and tour every Sunday at 2 p.m. and a Nepalese slide presentation and sale (April 26, 8 p.m.). 7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 769-3484.

★"Imagining Eden: Connecting Landscapes": U-M Museum of Art. April 5, 8, 19, & 22. Docent-guided tours of this exhibit of photographs depicting everyday life in Eatonville, Florida, the oldest incorporated black town in the U.S. 7 p.m. (Apr. 5 & 19) & 2 p.m. (Apr. 8 & 22), UMMA OffSite, 1301 South University. Free. 763-UMMA.

"Creating a New Way of Living: Meditations on Actions and Their Effects": Vajrayana Buddhist Center. April 5, 12, & 19. Talks by Khedrub, the resident teacher of the Vajrayana Buddhist Center in Chicago. Also, a guided meditation and discussion. 7-8:30 p.m., 116 E. Washington, suite 220. \$10 suggested donation. (248) 444-4633.

★Jonathan Lethem: Shaman Drum Bookshop/Ann Arbor District Library. See review, p. 70. This acclaimed novelist reads from *You Don't Love Me Yet*, his new comic novel about a woman working in an installation-art complaint line who falls in love with a frequent caller who captivates her with his off-color ruminations and opaque self-revelations. When she persuades the leader of the indie rock band in which she plays bass to use her boyfriend's musings as a basis for songs, the band rockets to stardom—until the boyfriend insists on joining the band. Signing. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 662-7407, 327-4560.

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U-M Chopin Project

What can you expect?

The U-M Chopin Project has no need of boosterism. Though the first recital was on a cold and snowy Tuesday night, and though the program consisted solely of works written

when the composer was between seven and eighteen years old, Britton Recital Hall overflowed its 250-seat capacity, with folks standing at the back and outside in the corridor. Chopin is far and away the most popular composer of Romantic piano music in history—and besides, it was free, and the audience knew what to expect.

At a bare minimum, they can expect, over the course of nine concerts, performances of every single solo piano work Chopin ever wrote, in chronological order. The good stuff—works from Chopin's late teens—started late in the second concert, and the really good stuff kicked in during the third concert, with works from his early twenties.

Whether the music itself is early, late, or middle, an audience can also expect the format to remain essentially the same. The Chopin Project was undertaken by the pianists in the studio of Arthur Greene, and

performances by the students are interspersed with performances by the master. In the first half of the opening concert, for example, Greene played the opening works—a pair of polonaises in G minor and B-flat major; the closing works—three ecossaises, two mazurkas (in G major and B-flat major), and a rondo in C minor; and the central work—the Introduction and Variations on "Der Schweizerbub." Two of his students played the flanking works: Dmitri Vorobiev took on the Polonaises in A-flat Major and G-sharp Minor, while Christina Thayer tore into the Polonaise in B-flat Minor.

Whether student or master is playing, the approach is consistent. To judge from the first concert, Greene and his studio are quintessentially lyrical Chopin players. This doesn't mean they don't have the chops—Vorobiev's technique was strong but supple; and it doesn't mean they don't have the guts—Thayer's tone was firm but flexible. But it does mean that, like Greene, they all emphasize Chopin's long legato melodies. And although the precocious young composer's supervirtuoso piano writing sometimes made this tough to accomplish, Greene and his students pulled it off successfully in the first concert, and the audience can reasonably expect they'll be able to do it again.

The U-M Chopin Project concludes with concerts on April 7, 10, & 14.

—James Leonard



Arthur Greene.

***Opera Workshop:** U-M School of Music. See 4 Wednesday. Today: scenes from 19th-century operas (5 p.m.) by Rossini, Donizetti, Verdi, Puccini, Berlioz, and Offenbach, from 20th-century operas (7 p.m.) by Strauss, Barber, Britten, Poulenc, Pasatieri, and Beeson, and early operas (7 p.m.) by Mozart, Handel, Cavalli, and Lully. 5 & 7 p.m.

***Booked for Murder Mystery Book Club:** Nicola's Books. All invited to join a discussion of 2 Edgar Award-winning murder mysteries, Paul Levine's *The Deep Blue Alibi* and Brian Everson's *The Open Curtain*. 7:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 769-2149.

***Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers.** Every Thursday. Instruction for intermediate-level dancers in a wide range of traditional and contemporary Scottish dances, followed by social dancing. Soft-soled shoes recommended. Refreshments. 7:30-9:30 p.m., the barn at Greichen's House V, 2625 Traver (off Nixon). \$4. 769-4324, 426-0241.

***Weekly Meeting:** U-M Sailing Club. April 5 & 19. All invited to meet members of this local sailing club and hear a talk by club members. Today: "New Season Kickoff." Also this month: a club member TBA presents an "Introduction to Racing" (April 19). 7:45 p.m., Duderstadt Center conference room 4, 2281 Bonisteel, North Campus. Free. 426-4299.

***Renaissance Dances:** Bedlam. April 5, 12, & 19. Beginning to experienced dancers invited to try English country dances, 15th- and 16th-century Italian dances, branles, pavan, almans, and more. Instruction provided. Wear comfy clothes and shoes. 8-11 p.m., Michigan League Henderson Room. Free. 971-1809.

***Arts Chorale:** U-M School of Music. Eugene Rogers conducts this chorus of LS&A undergrad and grad students in Handel's *Utrecht Te Deum*, Britten's *Festival Te Deum*, Brahms's *Liebesslieder Waltzes*, Barber's "Sure on This Singing Night," Petker's "Come to Me, O My Love," Orlando di Lasso's "Matona, mia cara," Cipriano de Rore's "Ancor che col partire," and Mahalia Jackson's "Rock My Soul." 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0583.

***"Chamber Music of the Baroque":** U-M School of Music Faculty Concert. A music faculty ensemble performs a program of Baroque showpieces for winds and strings by Telemann, Vivaldi, and Jan Zelenka. Performers are flutist Amy Porter, oboist Nancy King, bassoonist Jeffrey Lyman, violinist Yehonatan Berick, and harpsichordist Ed Parmentier. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baitz (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0583.

U-M Jazz Showcase: The Ark. See review, p. 73. Two U-M music-student ensembles—the Jazz Ensemble and Chamber Jazz Ensemble—are joined by

U-M music professors as guest soloists, including saxophonist Don Walden, flugelhornist Ed Sarath, percussionist Michael Gould, and trombonist Dennis Wilson. The program includes music by contemporary trumpeter Kenny Wheeler, U-M music students Brad Phillips and Michael Gaceta, and U-M music professors Ellen Rowe, Dennis Wilson, Ed Sarath, Michael Gould, and Donald Walden. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$10 (students with ID, \$5) in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

"Will Dance for Food": U-M Dance Department B.F.A. Thesis Concert. April 5-7. A concert of solo and group works choreographed by U-M dance seniors Anna Bratton, Joyelle Fobbs, Tony Frazier, Natalie Griffith, Nicole Jamieson, and Maureen Kelley. Bratton's untitled solo is inspired by Yoruba culture, and her *Interlude* is a group work with a Glenn Bering score that explores the relationships between 3 sisters as they grow together and apart throughout their lives. Fobbs's solo *E. 1027*, set to Leslie Stuck's *Maxi-zub*, is inspired by the cool edginess of modern architectural photography, and her group work, set to Michael Wall's *Social Climb*, explores how people negotiate hectic schedules and meaningful relationships. Frazier's solo is inspired by the photography of Annie Leibovitz, and his group work is a 3-part exploration, based on the biblical associations of the number 7, of feelings of incompleteness and the longing to reach fulfillment through God. Griffith's *Handmade Love* is a deeply personal solo with a Haydn score, and her *Little Black Dress* is a quintet exploring the role of fashion in women's lives. Jamieson presents a retrospective solo and a group work for 6 women that features a score by U-M music students Kristin Fosdick and Michelle Chamuel. Kelley's solo *Femina* is inspired by the social obstacles that confront a strong woman, and her *Refract*, a group piece set to music by Aphex Twin and Venetian Snares, explores repression and the eventual explosion it produces. 8 p.m. (doors open at 7 p.m.), U-M Dance Bldg. Betty Pease Studio Theater, 1310 North University Ct. Tickets \$5 at the door only. 763-5461.

"When the Lights Come On": Purple Rose Theater Company. Every Wednesday-Sunday, April 5-June 2, and April 17. Guy Sanville directs former EMU football assistant coach (and U-M football player) Brian Letscher's drama about a driven coach trying to sign a brilliant recruit who could save his career while neglecting his wife, who yearns for a baby. The cast includes Grant R. Krause, Michelle Mountain, and Jim Porterfield. 8 p.m. (Wed.-Sat. and Apr. 17), 3 p.m. (Sat. matinee and Apr. 25), & 2 p.m. (Sun.), Garage Theater, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Apr. 5-13 previews: \$20 (Wed. & Thurs.) and \$25 (Fri.,

Sat., & Sun.). Apr. 13 opening night: \$35. After Apr. 13: \$25 (Wed. & Thurs.), \$30 (Sat. & Sun. matinees), & \$35 (Fri. & Sat. eves.). 433-7673.

"Candida": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday, 8 p.m.

D. C. Malone: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. April 5-7. Solo performance by this former longtime member of the popular Detroit musical comedy duo Malone & Nootcheez. His show blends inventively playful musical parodies, off-the-wall observations, and witty sparring with his audience. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Friday early show is a nonsmoking show. 8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. \$7 (Thurs.) & \$10 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$9 (Thurs.) & \$12 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

Jedi Mind Tricks: The Blind Pig. Popular Philadelphia hip-hop duo known for its edgy, violent lyrics. Opening acts are Sean Price, a New York City underground hardcore hip-hop MC, and Grayskul, a Minneapolis hip-hop MC. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. Ashley. Tickets \$15 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, \$25 at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645-6666.

FILMS

MTF. "The Namesake" (Jeff Lipsky, 2006). See 1 Sunday. Mich., times TBA.

6 FRIDAY

"Tiny Tot Time": Leslie Science Center (Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation). April 6 & 20. A program of hikes, storytelling, songs, puppets, and crafts for kids ages 1-3 (accompanied by a caregiver). Snacks provided; dress for the outdoors. 9:30-11 a.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. \$6. 997-1553.

"Storytime with Mr. James": Arborland Borders. Every Friday. Borders staffer "Mr. James" reads stories and leads a craft project for toddlers. Also, raffle. Today: Beatrix Potter's *Peter Rabbit*. Also this month: Karma Wilson's *Animal Strike at the Zoo* and Jean-Luc Fromental's *365 Penguins* (April 13), Melinda Long and David Shannon's *How I Became a Pirate* and *Pirates Don't Change Diapers* (April 20), and Shel Silverstein's *The Giving Tree* and Alan Zweibel's *Our Tree Named Steve* (April 27). 11 a.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 449-9394.

***Lecture Series:** U-M Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies. April 6 & 13. Talks by U-M scholars. Today: U-M comparative literature professor Asli Igsiz discusses "The Greek-Turkish Population Exchange." Also this month: U-M history professor Juan Cole on "The Shi'ite Factor in the

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6 FRIDAY continued

Lebanon Crisis (April 13). 11 a.m.-noon, MLB Lecture Room 1, 812 E. Washington. Free. 764-0350.

★**"Tre Ore": St. Aidan's Episcopal Church.** All invited to join or watch a one-hour reenactment of the Stations of the Cross in a walk up the Broadway hill. Noon, meet in the former Kroger and CVS parking lot at the foot of the Broadway hill. Free. 663-5503.

"The Sky Tonight"/"Stellar Extremes": U-M Exhibit Museum Planetarium. Every Saturday & Sunday and April 6 & 9-13. The Sky Tonight (11:30 a.m. Saturdays and 1:30 & 3:30 p.m. both weekend days and April 6 & 9-13) is an audiovisual exploration of the current night sky. Stellar Extremes (12:30 p.m. Saturdays and 2:30 p.m. both weekend days and April 6 & 9-13) is an audiovisual show about unique stars from the biggest, hottest, and closest to the smallest, coolest, and farthest. Followed by a brief star talk. 1:30, 2:30, & 3:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. \$3.75. 764-0478.

★**Bingo: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** Every Friday. All seniors age 50 & older invited to play a variety of styles of bingo. 2-4 p.m., Brookhaven Manor, 401 W. Oakbrook (off S. Main north of Eisenhower). Free. 769-5911.

U-M Baseball vs. Minnesota. April 6 & 8 (single games) and April 7 (doubleheader). 3 p.m. (Apr. 6) & 1 p.m. (Apr. 7 & 8), Ray Fisher Stadium. \$5 (youths age 12 & under, \$3; U-M students, free). 764-0247.

U-M Softball vs. Penn State. April 6 & 7. Big Ten home opener. 4 p.m. (Apr. 6) & 1 p.m. (Apr. 7), Alumni Field (behind Ray Fisher Stadium), S. State at Hoover. \$4 (youths age 12 & under, \$2; U-M students, free). 764-0247.

★**"On Erotic Delusion and the Discovery of the Novel: A 16th-Century Telugu Poem about Being Human": U-M Center for South Asian Studies.** Talk by Hebrew University (Jerusalem) humanistic studies professor David Shulman. 5 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-5261.

★**First Friday Shabbat: Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society.** JCS students lead a secular Shabbat celebration that includes candle lighting, singing, and other Jewish rituals. Bring a dessert to pass. All invited. 6-8 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 975-9872.

★**"Project Design: Ann Arbor High School Fashion Show and Juried Exhibition": Ann Arbor District Library.** Juried show of fashions designed by local teens. 6-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-8301.

"In the Shadow of the Cross": St. Luke Lutheran Church. Jeff Greunke directs parishioners in his and their original musical about the parallels between biblical and contemporary sins. Three musical vignettes that incorporate video projections and dance pair biblical and modern stories about adultery, deceit, and stealing. Live music by parishioners. 6 & 8 p.m., St. Luke, 4205 Washtenaw. Donations accepted. 971-0550.

Dances of Universal Peace (Sufi Dancing). All invited to join in song, chant, and circle dances in joyous affirmation of the unity of the world's spiritual traditions. 7-9 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. \$5 requested donation. 996-1332.

Bringing Down Broadway and From under the Gallows: Neutral Zone. Double bill. Performances by Lapeer-area metalcore band Bringing Down Broadway and Lansing ambient-metal band From under the Gallows. Opening acts are the posthardcore experimental band I See Stars, the local hardcore band We Are Desire, and the local screamo bands Our Tomorrow and the Vanity Farewell. 7-11 p.m., Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington St. \$7. 214-9995.

★**"Astrobiology: The Snowball Earth Hypothesis": U-M Student Astronomical Society/Society of Biology Students.** Talk by U-M geology professor Rob Van der Voo. 7:30-8:30 p.m., Angell Hall Auditorium B. Free. 764-3440.

★**Good Friday Tenebrae: First Presbyterian Church.** The church's chancel choir and string quartet perform Lenten anthems. Also, Good Friday readings. 7:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662-4466.

★**Silent Meditation: Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers.** Every Friday. All invited to sit in silent meditation. 8-9 p.m., Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers Studio B, 2007 S. State. Free; donations accepted. Preregistration requested. 945-8602.

★**Student String Chamber Music Recital: U-M School of Music.** Music students perform chamber works TBA. 8 p.m., U-M Stearns Bldg. Cady Room, 2005 Baitis (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0583.

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Acclaimed singer-songwriter Martin Sexton celebrates the release of his new CD, *Seeds*, at Borders Apr. 10 and at an Ark-sponsored show at the Michigan Theater Apr. 11.

Ullmann/Swell 4: Kerrytown Concert House "Jazz at the Edge." Limer, spirited jazz ranging in mood from reflective to jaunty by the acclaimed quartet led by trombonist Steve Swell and saxophonist, clarinetist, and composer Gebhard Ullmann. With bassist Hilliard Hill Greene and drummer and percussionist Barry Altschul. In a review of the group's 2005 CD *Desert Songs and Other Landscapes*, one critic called the quartet "musically and emotionally attuned," adding that "the joy of playing together rings through clearly." 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets \$10, \$15, & \$25 (students, \$5). Reservations suggested. 769-2999.

Daisy May & Seth Bernard: The Ark. Singer-songwriter duo with mid-Michigan roots that is accompanied tonight by an acoustic quartet. Bernard is a local singer-songwriter, originally from Lake City, Michigan, who writes clever, funny, and candidly insightful folk-, rock-, and jazz-based songs about his life. He has released a CD, *Hello Fellow Travelers*. Daisy May is the stage name of May Erlewine, a big-voiced singer-songwriter from Big Rapids who writes thoughtful, richly emotional country-flavored songs. She recently released her 2nd CD, *Sleepless*. Opening act is **Laura Bates & Brandon Foote**, a Lansing duo that plays acoustic gospel-tinged folk music. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$15 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

***"The Charlotte Salomon Project": U-M Theater Department.** April 6 & 7. The New York City theater company Polybe + Seats presents its drama based on the works of the German Jewish artist who escaped during WW II to the south of France, where she created 1,300 paintings over the course of two years, depicting her family's history, her sheltered and highly cultured girlhood during the rise of the Nazi regime, her development into an artist, and her troubled love for her stepmother's vocal coach. 8 & 11 p.m., Walgreen Drama Center Studio One, 1226 Murfin. Free but tickets required at the Michigan League Ticket Office. 764-2538.

"Venus": U-M Rude Mechanicals. April 6 & 7. Hyatt Michaels directs U-M students in Suzan-Lori Park's drama based on the life of Saartjie Baartman, a south African woman lured to England with promises of wealth, only to be shunted by her supposed protector into a freak show, where a doctor became enamored with her and took her for his mistress. 8 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater. Tickets \$5 (students \$3) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

"In the Heart of America": Blackbird Theater Productions. April 6, 7, 13-15, & 20-22. Callie McKee directs the Michigan premiere of Naomi Wal-

lace's unblinking, controversial play about the 1991 Gulf War. A broken-spirited vet holing up in a dank motel room is visited by the sister of a missing Arab American soldier he shared an ambiguous relationship with during the war. Cast: Ahmed Muslimani, Matt Pinard, Jennifer Tocco, Debby Wan, and Oliver Darrow. 8 p.m., Blackbird Theater, 1600 Pauline (at Kay Pkwy. east of Stadium). Tickets \$18 (seniors \$12, students \$8) in advance and at the door. 332-3848.

"Will Dance for Food": U-M Dance Department B.F.A. Thesis Concert. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"When the Lights Come On": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Candida": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

D. C. Malone: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 5 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

***Angell Hall Observatory Open House: U-M Astronomy Department.** All invited to peer through the telescopes in the observatory and on the Angell Hall roof and to view shows in the planetarium. Also, Student Astronomy Society members give short presentations on a variety of astronomy topics. 9-11 p.m., fifth floor rooftop observatory, Angell Hall (from the large State St. entrance, take one of the elevators on the left to the fifth floor). Free. 764-3440.

Singles Dance: Parents Without Partners. April 6 & 20. All singles invited for an evening of dancing and socializing. Recorded 70s to contemporary dance music played by DJ John Brown. Cash bar. Smoking allowed in designated areas. Preceded at 8 p.m. by free dance lessons. 9 p.m.-1 a.m., Grotto Club, 2070 W. Stadium. \$8 (PWP members, \$6). 973-1933.

Bob Dorough Quintet: The Firefly Club. Best-known as the voice of the *Schoolhouse Rock* educational TV program, 83-year-old singer-pianist Dorough is a Texas hipster who has worked with everyone from Blossom Dearie to Miles Davis to Allen Ginsberg and whose cheerfully eccentric pop and postpop tunes with witty, quirky lyrics were an early influence on Mose Allison. 9 & 11 p.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. Tickets \$30 at the door only. 665-9090.

"Swing Dance Party": Ann Arbor Swing Dance Association. Every Friday. Lindy hop, East Coast swing, Charleston, blues, and balboa dancing, with DJs TBA. No partner necessary. Preceded at 9 p.m. by a beginners lesson. 9:45 p.m.-midnight, danceRevolution, 603 E. William. \$5 (students with ID, \$4). 945-8428.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Puccini for Beginners" (Maria Maggenti, 2006). April 6, 8, & 9. Romantic comedy involving chatty, self-absorbed New Yorkers, about a woman abandoned by her girlfriend who falls for a man and then for a woman who, unbeknownst to her, is the man's soon-to-be-girlfriend. \$8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, \$6.75; MTF members, \$6). 668-TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA. **"The Namesake"** (Jeff Lipsky, 2006). See 1 Sunday. Mich., times TBA. **"10th Annual Film Farm": U-M M-Flicks (University Activities Center).** This smorgasbord of independently made U-M student films and videos is dominated by wacky, often hilarious shorts. The audience votes on the most original idea, best screenplay, best cinematography, and best film overall. Based on votes, trophies—the coveted "Bessies"—are awarded. 6:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 763-1107.

7 SATURDAY

***Model Horse Show: Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds.** Collectors show their plastic model horses, many meticulously hand-painted and decorated with tiny homemade tack—and a few patched up with Bondo. Also, judging. Sale of Breyer and Stone brands model horses. Food concessions. Time TBA, Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free admission. 474-4024.

***"Sunrise Saturday Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** Every Saturday. Very slow-paced

22-mile ride to Dexter for breakfast. Begins at sunrise. 7:08 a.m. (Apr. 7), 6:56 a.m. (Apr. 14), 6:45 a.m. (Apr. 21), & 6:35 a.m. (Apr. 28), meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 665-6327, 913-9851.

***"Dexter Breakfast Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** Every Saturday. Beginner-friendly slow-paced (22 miles) and moderate/fast-paced (30 to 80 miles) round-trip rides to the Dexter Bakery. A very popular ride. Note: Riders should be prepared to take care of themselves on all AABTS rides. Carry a water bottle, a spare tire or tube, a pump, a cell phone or change for a phone call, and snacks. 9 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St., or at Barton Park, Huron River Dr. Free. For information, call 483-0448 (Apr. 7), 761-1147 (Apr. 14), 996-4985 (Apr. 21), & 994-3001 (Apr. 28).

***"First Flush: Arb Ramble": U-M Nichols Arboretum.** Local naturalist Robert Ayotte leads a hike through the Arb to spot blooms and fruits of woody plants. 9:30 a.m., meet at the Reader Center, 1610 Washington Heights. Free. Preregistration required. 647-7600.

***Walk: Grex.** Every Saturday (different locations). All invited to join members of this local computer-conferencing group for a walk, either along trails in Bird Hills Nature Area (Apr. 7) or from Gallup Park through Nichols Arboretum (Apr. 14, 21, & 28). 10 a.m., meet at the Newport Rd. entrance to Bird Hills Nature Area (Apr. 7) and in Gallup Park parking lot (Apr. 14, 21, & 28), 3000 Fuller Rd. (west side of Huron Pkwy.). Free. 741-9351.

Tour: Zingerman's Bakehouse. Every Saturday. A chance to view artisanal bread and pastry baking and get a free treat. Kids under age 6 not admitted. 10 a.m., Zingerman's Bakehouse, 3711 Plaza Dr. \$5 (kids ages 6-12, free). Reservations required. 761-7255.

Spring Sale: Michigan State African Violet Society. April 7 & 8. Show and sale of more than 500 member-grown African violets in varieties seldom seen in stores, including gesneriads, trailing plants, miniatures, and plants with single, double, and variegated blossoms in numerous colors. Club members are on hand to offer cultivation tips. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (Apr. 7) & 10 a.m.-2 p.m. (Apr. 8), U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free admission. (248) 698-3628.

***Easter Egg Hunt: West Side United Methodist Church.** Kids of all ages invited to search the Memorial Garden for cunningly hidden plastic treat-filled eggs. Prizes, games, and a visit from the Easter Bunny. Snacks and craft. 10 a.m.-noon, West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh St. Free. 663-4164.

"Sciencepalooza": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum Family Day. April 7 & 8. This popular monthly exhibit in the concourse area features an array of attended hands-on activity tables. This month's program, **"Fun-Tastic Physics."** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (Apr. 7) & noon-4 p.m. (Apr. 8), Hands-On Museum, 220 E. Ann. \$7 (members & infants, free) regular museum admission. 995-5439.

***Downtown Home & Garden Spring Lecture Series.** April 7, 21, & 28. Today: DH&G owner Mark Hodesh discusses **"Fixin' Up Your Lawn."** Also this month: Manchester Wildflower Farm owner Joe Wissing shows **"How to Establish a Wildflower Garden"** (April 21), and DH&G staff member John Steffenson discusses **"How to Attract and Feed Hummingbirds"** (April 28). Also, on April 7, 14, & 21 Washtenaw County Extension Service master gardeners are on hand (9 a.m.-3 p.m.) to answer questions and accept soil samples (\$15 per sample) for testing. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., DH&G, 210 S. Ashley. Free. 662-8122.

***"Receiving the Erotic in South India": U-M Center for South Asian Studies.** A day of talks about eroticism in South Indian literature, by U-M and visiting scholars. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-5261.

***"Current Footprints on Public Education": Gray Panthers of Huron Valley.** Talk by Michigan Board of Education member Elizabeth Bauer and local activist June Rusten. Discussion follows. Preceded at 9:45 a.m. by coffee & socializing. 10 a.m.-noon, U-M Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 973-5593.

***"Peter's Path": Bethlehem United Church of Christ.** A walk-through collage of scenes in which actors re-create the events of Easter week from the point of view of the apostle Peter. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Bethlehem United Church of Christ, 423 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 665-6149.

Draw Doubles: Local 101 Disc Golf Club. Every Saturday. All invited to play disc golf at one of Hudson Mills Metropark's 24-hole disc golf courses. Disc golf is a popular sport played with a Frisbee-like disc; the goal is to land the disc in a "pole hole" in the fewest shots. In draw doubles play, beginners are paired with advanced players to create parity. Prizes.

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www.annarbor.org/familydays

7 SATURDAY continued

Golf discs available free from the Hudson Mills Metropark office. 11 a.m., Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. \$4 per player; free for spectators. Vehicle entrance fees: \$4/day, \$20/year (\$12 for seniors age 62 & over). 449-4300.

★**Storytime: Nicola's Books.** Every Saturday. Storytelling program for kids under age 7. Peter Rabbit hops in after the April 14 storytime. 11 a.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

★**"Dancing Babies": Ann Arbor District Library National Library Week.** All parents invited to bring their babies for a program of music and dancing presented by the local guitarists and banjoists Betsy Beckerman and Sara Melton Keller. 11-11:30 a.m., Ann Arbor District Library Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School Rd. & Packard). Free. 327-4200.

★**Easter Egg Hunt: Domino's Farms.** Kids invited to scour the grounds at noon in a hunt for 20,000 toy- and candy-filled plastic Easter eggs sprinkled over 3 fields, for kids age 3 & under, ages 4-6, or ages 7-12. Also, a chance to chat with the Easter Bunny, hop on the hayride, and visit the petting farm. Noon sharp (gates open at 9:30 a.m.), Domino's Farms, 30 Frank Lloyd Wright Dr. (off Earhart Rd. north of Plymouth Rd.). \$5. 998-0182.

★**Ultimate Frisbee: H.A.C. Ultimate.** Every Saturday. All invited to a pickup game of this spirited team sport played with a flying disc. Beginners welcome. 2 p.m., Burns Park. Free. 846-9418.

★**Ann Arbor Middle East Film Society.** Screening of *Deir Yassin Remembered*, a documentary about the survivors and children of survivors of a massacre, a month before the establishment of Israel, of some 100 Arab residents of a village located on high ground between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. Followed by discussion. 2 p.m., Michigan Union Anderson Room. Free; donations appreciated. 668-1358.

★**"Public Debate on 9/11": Ann Arbor 9/11 Truth.** Debate between members of Ann Arbor 9/11 Truth, who argue that the 9/11 terror attack was trumped up as a pretext for war, and members of the U-M Young Americans for Freedom, who disagree. Preceded and followed by screenings of 9/11 documentaries, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. & 5 p.m.-10 p.m. 2-5 p.m., Michigan League Ballroom. Free. 239-1877.

★**Kids Drum Circle: Oz's Music.** All kids invited to join a drumming session hosted by Oz's owner Steve Osburn. Drums provided. 3-4 p.m., Oz's, 1920 Packard. \$10. 662-8283.

★**Early Music Ensemble: U-M School of Music.** Ed Parmentier directs this music-student ensemble in the first and last movements of J. S. Bach's Cantata 105, Byrd's motet "O quam gloriosum est regnum," Philips's "Ecce Vincit Leo," a cantata by Montclair, a Telemann violin and oboe quartet, and works by Monteverdi, Couperin, Frescobaldi, and Purcell. 4 p.m., U-M Music School Moore Hall, 1100 Baitz (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0583.

★**Alicia Doudna: Kerrytown Concert House.** Recital by this Phoenix Ensemble violinist, accompanied by pianist Vincent Planes. Guest performers are Phoenix Ensemble director and violinist Gabe Bolkosky and Phoenix Ensemble cellist Mary Ann Ramos. Program: Bartok's 1st Rhapsody and his Duo for 2 Violins, Franck's Sonata in A Major, and Mozart's Sonata in B-flat. 4 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets \$10. Reservations suggested. 769-2999.

★**"Animania": U-M Japanese Animation Film Society.** Monthly anime-a-thon of feature films and episodes from TV series. This month's series: *Busou Renkin* is about a high school student who's given a magic lance in order to battle homunculi, *Ouran High School Host Club* is about a high school student who is given a challenging task to compensate for breaking an expensive vase, and *Death Note* is about a high school student who invents a way to kill all the world's criminals. Raffle. U-M campus admission policy: No one under 18 admitted without an adult. 5 p.m.-midnight, MLB, 812 E. Washington at Thayer. Free. www.umich.edu/~animania.

★**"46th Annual Celebration of Basketball": U-M Athletic Department.** All invited to a reception with hors d'oeuvres honoring the U-M men's basketball team, talks by the team's graduating seniors, a season highlight video, and an awards ceremony emceed by Michigan broadcaster Matt Shepard. Also, a chance to get autographs. Silent auction. (The concourse opens at 6:15 p.m. for fans wishing to see only the awards program and season highlight video, for free.) Also, sale of U-M merchandise. A fund-raiser for the athletic department. 5:30 p.m., Crisler Arena. Tickets \$40 in advance only. 663-5281.

★**"Yoga Trance Dance": A2 Yoga Studio.** Michael Gibson-Faith and Jo Horn lead a session of easy, flu-

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Measha Brueggergosman Personality

The African Canadian soprano Measha Brueggergosman is a sensation in every sense of the word. Start with the name: she grew up Measha (MEE-sha) Gosman in New Brunswick; married a Swiss, Markus Bruegger; and fused their surnames. Continue with the instrument, a powerful, energetic thing, a collection of distinct, sparkling planes that reached new intensity on her recent *Extase* album, a collection of French operatic arias and orchestral songs. Another source of Brueggergosman's vocal power comes from black gospel music, as was startlingly demonstrated by a hidden track on *Extase*: a soaring version of the Walter Hawkins classic "Goin' Up Yonder."

And then consider the attitude: a combination of diva-size personality and extreme playfulness (a big photo on her website shows her blowing bubble gum). She seems to have as good a shot as anybody of bringing classical vocal art to young people—she has a MySpace page, wears a nose stud, and thanks "mah killah peeps" in the booklet notes to *Extase*. So far (she's not yet thirty), Brueggergosman has seemed in control of her career, putting across the variety of her personality with a range of music extending from heavy operatic roles to songs influenced by the language of popular music, including those of Gershwin.

Ann Arbor audiences were among the first in the United States to realize that Brueggergosman was really something to see. She filled in for an ailing Audra McDonald at one of the concerts marking the reopening of Hill Auditorium in 2004, and her performance,

which included a group of U-M composer William Bolcom's cabaret songs, had concertgoers in town buzzing. Brueggergosman will be performing these songs (with Bolcom again at the piano) and others like them (with pianist J. J. Penna) at Hill Auditorium on Thursday, April 12.

The classical cabaret song—essentially a standards-era pop song written by a classical composer—is a small but fascinating slice of the classical vocal repertoire, a medium in which classical composers both link themselves to the vernacular musical language and comment on it. Even so resolute a modernist as Arnold Schoenberg wrote a few. Bolcom's, with texts by Arnold Weinstein, show the influence of Charles Ives. Their straightforward tunes set wry romantic lyrics of middle age, portraits, or gnomish little stories. Many of the songs are quite funny; some open up the chasms of sadness and mystery that lie under everyday human lives. The piano accompaniments live a life of their own, sometimes giving simple harmonic support to the tune but more often running in parallel with it somehow—perhaps in harmonically dense runs that suggest life's larger dimensions. From their popular antecedents these songs borrow a conversational quality, shifting periodically between melody and spoken or half-spoken text.

Such pieces are often performed by singers with chamber-size voices (Kerrytown Concert House is a frequent local cabaret-song venue), but I'm betting that Bolcom's are going to get their definitive performance



in the larger scale of Brueggergosman's April concert. She has all the ingredients she needs to make that definitive performance: the vocal agility, the humor, the ability to tap into the African American roots that shape the melodies and ragtime rhythms of Bolcom's songs, and most of all the quality that used to be called personality, which is different from sheer charisma and which ought to let her draw the crowd into the intimate quality of these songs even in a hall the size of Hill Auditorium.

—James M. Manheim

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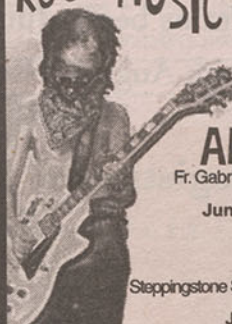
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Dexter Twirlers Square Dance Club. April 7 & 21.
Glen Geer calls square dances for experienced
dancers to recorded music. No partner necessary.
Wear soft-soled shoes (not tennis shoes). 7:30 p.m.,
St. Andrew's Church, 7610 Ann Arbor St., Dexter. \$5.
433-0308.

★**"Chopin Project": U-M School of Music.** April
7, 10, & 14. See review, p. 75. U-M piano professor
Arthur Greene and his students perform Chopin's
entire solo piano works over the course of a 9-concert
series that concludes this month. Tonight: Greene
performs 3 waltzes and 6 mazurkas, some with Emile
Gaillard. Also, Noel McRobbie performs a nocturne
and an impromptu, Christina Thayer performs a
sonata, Dmitri Vorobiev performs *Allegro de Concert*,
Xiaofeng Wu performs 3 etudes and a polonaise,
and Angela Wu performs the Canon in F Minor
and a ballade. Tonight's program begins with a talk
by U-M music professor Wayne Petty. 7:30 p.m., U-
M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broad-
way), North Campus. Free. 764-0583.

Ben Folds: Live Nation. Witty, quirky, rough-and-
ready piano-based rock 'n' roll by this singer-song-
writer who first gained attention as the leader of the
Ben Folds Five. Folds is especially known for his
musical inventiveness. As one critic put it, he "drops
Gershwin licks into his solos and weaves Fats Waller
and Baroque into a repertoire that merges the smarty-
pants pop of Squeeze with the punctilious prog R&B
of Queen." He's also famous for an unusually strong
rapport with his audiences, often indulging in sing-
alongs or call-and-response songs with the crowd.
7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$30 in advance
at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other
Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by
phone, call (248) 645-6666.

**1st Saturday Contra Dance: Ann Arbor Council
for Traditional Music and Dance.** Peter Baker calls
to music by Black River Ironworks. No partner need-
ed; all dances taught; beginners welcome. Wear cool,
casual clothes and comfy, flat-soled shoes. Preceded
by a free open jam for string and other musicians
(3-6 p.m.). 8-11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann

Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/4 mile south of I-94). \$10 (mem-
bers, \$9; students, \$5). 769-1052.

**Gandalf Murphy & the Slambovian Circus of
Dreams: The Ark.** Very popular folk-rock quartet
from the Hudson Valley whose music one fan de-
scribed as sounding "as if David Bowie recorded
Hunky Dory with the Band in the basement of Big
Pink." Led by the husband-and-wife duo of singer-
songwriter and guitarist Joziyah Longo and his wife,
cellist and accordionist Tink Lloyd, the band also in-
cludes lead guitarist Sharkey McEwen and drummer
Tony Zuzulo. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets
\$15 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the
Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticket-
master outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone,
call 763-TKTS.

★**"The Charlotte Salomon Project": U-M Theater
Department.** See 6 Friday. 5 & 8 p.m.

**"Will Dance for Food": U-M Dance Department
B.F.A. Thesis Concert.** See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

**"In the Heart of America": Blackbird Theater
Productions.** See 6 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Venus": U-M Rude Mechanicals. See 6 Friday. 2
& 8 p.m.

**"When the Lights Come On": Purple Rose The-
ater Company.** See 5 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

**"Candida": Performance Network Professional
Season.** See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

D. C. Malone: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See
5 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Winter Concert: Kol Hakavod (U-M Hillel). This
popular chorus, dubbed the "U-M's Jewish cappella
sensation," has a repertoire that includes Israeli pop
songs, Sabbath prayers, and traditional and contem-
porary Jewish music in Hebrew, English, Yiddish,
and Ladino. 8:30 p.m., U-M Hillel Auditorium, 1429
Hill. \$5. 769-0500.

**"Serious about Salsa": danceRevolution Dance
Studio.** April 7 & 21. High-energy salsa, merengue,
bachata, and cha-cha dancing to recorded music spun
by a DJ. No partner necessary. 9 p.m.-1 a.m.,
danceRevolution, 603 E. William. \$5. 945-8428.

★**"Milonga Picante": Michigan Argentine Tango
Club.** April 7 & 21. Tango dancing to recorded mu-

sic. Note: People not affiliated with the U-M must ar-
rive before 9 p.m. 9 p.m.-1 a.m., Michigan League
Ballroom (Apr. 7) & Michigan Union U-Club (Apr.
21). Free. 973-2338.

FILMS

MTF. "The Namesake" (Jeff Lipsky, 2006). See 1
Sunday. Mich., times TBA.

8 SUNDAY (Easter)

★**"Sharon Hollow Bunny Dodge Ride": Ann Ar-
bor Bicycle Touring Society.** Fast/moderate-paced
75-mile ride to Brooklyn or Manchester for break-
fast. Also, a slow-paced 40-mile ride to the same des-
tination leaves at 10 a.m. from the municipal parking
lot on Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. 9 a.m., meet at Wheeler
Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 975-6648
(75-mile ride), 996-9461 (40-mile ride).

U-M Softball Doubleheader vs. Ohio State. Big
Ten home opener. Noon, Alumni Field (behind Ray
Fisher Stadium), S. State at Hoover. \$4 (youths age
12 & under, \$2; U-M students, free). 764-0247.

★**Crooked Lake Trail Hike: Sierra Club Book
Club.** All invited to hike 5.1 miles through wood-
lands and hills. 1 p.m., meet at City Hall to carpool.
Free. 678-0264.

★**Friends of Four-Hand Piano.** Pianists of all abili-
ties invited to bring their music for a casual afternoon
of performing duets. An opportunity to meet other pi-
anists and find partners for 4-hand and 2-piano mu-
sic. Listeners welcome. 2 p.m., location TBA. Free.
971-6261, 485-5007.

**"When the Lights Come On": Purple Rose The-
ater Company.** See 5 Thursday. 2 p.m.

**"Candida": Performance Network Professional
Season.** See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

★**"Sita Ablaze: The Ramayana Story": U-M
Gamelan Ensemble.** Puppetmaster Sigit Adji Sabdo-
priyono and dancer Yulisa Mastati, both Residential
College artists-in-residence, lead U-M student
dancers and puppeteers in the duo's English-language
treatment of an episode from the Hindu epic *Ra-
mayana* about a demon king who kidnaps a beloved
prince's wife. Combining dance and a contemporary
version of traditional Indonesian shadow puppetry,



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8 SUNDAY continued

the show is accompanied by an ensemble of U-M students, staff, and townies on the gamelan, an assembly of 50 bronze gongs, flutes, metallophones, drums, strings, and a xylophone that produce gamelan music, the classical music of Indonesia, whose intricate cycles mesmerize with a sweet, dreamy, chiming clangor. The U-M snagged its gamelan, whose name is *Kyai Telaga Madu* ("The Venerable Lake of Honey"), for \$2,000 when the Indonesian booth at the 1964 World's Fair went broke. 4 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0583.

★**John Ellis: U-M School of Music.** This U-M piano professor performs and discusses Schumann's *Fantasy in C Major*. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0583.

★**Wilbert De Jode: Kerrytown Concert House "Jazz at the Edge."** Solo performance by this inventive Dutch avant-jazz bassist known for his rough, gutsy timbre and impeccable sense of timing. One critic calls him a "monster of a bassist." 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets \$10, \$15, & \$25 (students, \$5). Reservations suggested. 769-2999.

FILMS

MTF. "The Namesake" (Jeff Lipsky, 2006). See 1-Sunday. Mich., times TBA. "Puccini for Beginners" (Maria Maggenti, 2006). See 6 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

9 MONDAY

★**"Slime Time": Ann Arbor District Library.** April 9 & 11. All kids age 9 & up invited to make some gross & gooey slime. Materials provided. 11 a.m.-noon (Apr. 9), AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard), & 2-3 p.m. (Apr. 11), AADL Northeast Branch, Plymouth Mall. Free. 327-4200.

★**"Fidel's Final Victory: Cuba's 'Transition' and the Future of U.S.-Cuban Relations": U-M Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies.** Talk by Council on Foreign Relations Latin American studies director Julia Sweig, author of *Inside the Cuban Revolution*. 11:45 a.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 647-0844.

★**Social Duplicate Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** April 9 & 23. All seniors age 55 & older invited to play this popular bridge format. No partner required. 12:45-3:45 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$1. 769-5911.

★**"Valorized Whiteness, Denigrated Blackness: (Re)Examining Mestizaje in Filipino America": U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies.** Talk by U-M sociology professor Matthew Andrews. 1:30-3 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-0352.

★**"Cup Stack Attack": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids age 9 & up invited to see how fast they can make a stack of cups. 2-3 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-4200.

★**"Citizenship after Authoritarianism: Reconfiguring Ethnic Minority in Indonesia Pop Cultures": U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies.** Talk by University of Melbourne Asian languages lecturer Ariel Heryanto. 4 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-0352.

★**"Food for Life": Whole Foods Market.** April 9, 16, 23, & 30. Jan Kemp, a local representative of the D.C.-based nonprofit the Cancer Project, shows how to prepare foods thought to help prevent cancer. Today: "Planning Healthy Meals." Also this month: "Antioxidants and Phytochemicals" (April 16), "Immune-Boosting Foods" (April 23), and "Maintaining a Healthy Weight" (March 30). 6-7:30 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking and Lifestyles Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations requested. 975-4500.

★**The Barony of Cynabar.** Every Monday except April 2. All invited to join members of this local chapter of the Society for Creative Anachronism to work on re-creating different aspects of medieval culture, including combat, dancing, singing, clothing, and many other arts & crafts. 7 p.m., 1311 EECS, 1301 Beal, North Campus. Free. Information at cynabar.org.

★**"The Crack of Doom: The End of the Confederacy in the West": Ann Arbor Area Civil War Round Table.** Talk by Clarksdale, Tennessee, Civil War Round Table president Greg Biggs. 7 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off E. Huron River Dr.), Ypsilanti. Free. 930-0617.

★**"The Hidden Child": Ann Arbor District Library.** Screening of this 2004 documentary about the return of Maud Dahme to the Dutch farmhouse

where she was hidden as a child during the Holocaust and her emotional reunion with the Christian women who saved her life. Followed by a discussion led by Michigan TV station manager Jennifer White. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 662-7407, 327-4560.

★**"Exploring Complementary & Alternative Medicine for Serious Mental Illness: Schizophrenia, Bipolar, Depression": National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Washtenaw County.** Panel discussion with Pfeiffer Treatment Center (Warrenville, Illinois) executive director Scott Filer, Nutrition Magician owner Judy Stone, local holistic physician Malcolm Sickels, and a U-M Integrative Medicine representative TBA. 7:30-9:30 p.m., St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 2309 Packard. Free. 994-6611.

★**"The View from the Center of the Universe: Discovering Our Extraordinary Place in the Cosmos": U-M Center for Theoretical Physics.** The University of California husband-and-wife team of physics professor Joel Primack and philosophy of science professor Nancy Abrams discuss their new book. 7:30 p.m., 1800 Chemistry, 930 North University. Free. 763-9698.

★**Flute Studio Recital: U-M School of Music.** Performances by students of U-M flute professor Amy Porter. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0583.

★**Student String Chamber Music Recital: U-M School of Music.** Music students perform chamber works TBA. 8 p.m., U-M Stearns Bldg. Cady Room, 2005 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0583.

★**"Mad about Chamber Music": Kerrytown Concert House.** See 2 Monday. Today: U-M Collaborative Piano Program grad students perform vocal and instrumental chamber music. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 769-2999.

★**David Francey: The Ark.** Scottish-born, Canadian-bred singer-songwriter known for his sharp portraits of Canada and its ordinary working people. "Like country blues legend Mississippi John Hurt, David Francey writes in a direct, snapshot style," says *Exclaim* magazine. Francey has won 2 Juno awards for Best Roots & Traditional Album. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$15 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

FILMS

★**Melange. "Monday Night Movie & Dinner."** See 2 Monday. Tonight: *The Constant Gardener* (Fernando Meirelles, 2005), an unsettling political thriller, based on the best-selling John Le Carré novel, about a minor English diplomat in Kenya whose investigation of his wife's murder leads to disturbing discoveries about a drug conglomerate. Melange, 6:30 p.m. MTF. "The Namesake" (Jeff Lipsky, 2006). See 1 Sunday. Mich., times TBA. "Puccini for Beginners" (Maria Maggenti, 2006). See 6 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

10 TUESDAY

★**"Good Bugs, Bad Bugs": Good Thyme Garden Club.** Talk by Saline master gardener Cathy Andrews. 10 a.m., Arbor Hospice, 2366 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 332-4791.

★**Distinguished Lecture Series: U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.** Eighth in a series of 9 monthly lectures by different U-M scholars. Open to all age 55 & older. Today: U-M geology professor emeritus Henry Pollack discusses "Global Warming: Is There Consensus on This Issue and Can Various Political, Economic, and Social Issues Be Resolved?" 10-11:30 a.m., Best Western Conference Center, 2900 Jackson Rd. \$50 (members, \$35) for the 9-lecture series, \$25 (members, \$10) per lecture. Memberships are \$15 a year. 998-9351.

★**Group Drumming and Singing: U-M Turner Geriatrics Center.** April 10, 18, & 24. All seniors invited to join music and health consultant Diane Baker for singing, drumming, and dancing. Drums provided. 10:30-11 a.m. (Apr. 10 & 24) & 1-2 p.m. (Apr. 18), Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998-9353.

★**"Cooking with Soy": Whole Foods Market.** A Whole Foods staff member discusses the nutrition benefits of soy and whips up some quick and easy soy recipes. Noon-1 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyles Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Preregistration requested. 975-4500.

★**"Flurry of Flowers": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids age 3 & up invited to make a colorful bouquet of flowers. Materials provided. 2-4 p.m., AADL Northeast Branch, Plymouth Mall. Free. 327-4200.

★**Materials Recovery Facility Monthly Open House: Ann Arbor Solid Waste Department.** April

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10 & 14. Guided tours of the city's new recycling and trash disposal center. This month's special activities include a **tour of the compost center**. Also, free coupon for a bushel of compost and a seedling planted in compost to take home. 3-5 p.m. (Apr. 10) & 10 a.m.-noon (Apr. 14), **Materials Recovery Facility**, 4120 Platt Rd. Free. 994-2807.

★**"Indian Democracy and Poverty in India": U-M Center for South Asian Studies.** Talk by visiting scholar Yogendra Yadav. 4 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-5261.

U-M Softball vs. Ball State. 5 p.m., **Alumni Field** (behind Ray Fisher Stadium), S. State at Hoover. \$4 (youths age 12 & under, \$2; U-M students, free). 764-0247.

★**"Meet and Walk": Washtenaw Wanderers Volkssporting Club.** All invited to learn about the club's future walking excursions. Followed by a stroll around Gallup Park. 7-8 p.m., **Gallup Park Canoe Livery meeting room** (west side of Huron Pkwy.), 3000 Fuller Rd. Free. 649-5024.

★**"Food for a Healthy Child": People's Food Co-op.** Talk by local naturopath Michele Loewe. 7-8:30 p.m., **Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room**, 114 S. Main St. Free. 769-0095.

★**Daniel Granholm Mulhern: Nicola's Books.** The governor's husband reads from his book *Everyday Leadership: Getting Results in Business, Politics, and Life*. Also, signing. 7 p.m., **Nicola's, Westgate shopping center**. Free. 662-0600.

★**"The Quilts of Gee's Bend": Ann Arbor Fiber-arts Guild.** Screening of this DVD documentary about the world-renowned quilts, which the *New York Times* called "some of the most miraculous works of modern art America has produced," made by a tiny community of women descended from an Alabama plantation's freed slaves. Preceded by social time (6:30 p.m.). 7 p.m., **St. Clare's Episcopal Church**, 2309 Packard. Free. 425-1326.

★**"Understanding Mind": Jewel Heart Buddhist Center.** Every Tuesday beginning April 10. Talks by **Gehlek Rimpoche**, an incarnate lama from Tibet who lives in Ann Arbor, or one of Gehlek's senior students. 7-8:30 p.m., **Jewel Heart Buddhist Center**, 207 E. Washington. \$10 (students & seniors, \$5). 994-3387.

★**"Sick: The Untold Story of America's Health Care Crisis—and the People Who Pay the Price": Shaman Drum Bookshop.** Veteran journalist **Jonathan Cohn**, a senior editor at the *New Republic* and a contributing editor at *American Prospect*, reads from his investigation of what happens to people living without health insurance. Signing. 7 p.m., **Shaman Drum**, 315 S. State. Free. 662-7407.

★**"The U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology: Past, Present, and Future": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by Kelsey Museum director Sharon Herbert. 7-8:30 p.m., **AADL multipurpose room** (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 662-7407, 327-4560.

★**"Cinema Slam": Michigan Theater Foundation.** A lively, entertaining 2-hour smorgasbord of films made by Ann Arborites, from VHS home movies to 35 mm films by independent filmmakers. All invited to submit a film in VHS, DVD, or Beta format. "It's not a film till someone sees it!" Followed by an informal reception with the filmmakers at Espresso Royale on State Street. 7 p.m., **Michigan Theater**. \$5. 646-9364.

★**Fantasy and Science Fiction/Theory Reading Group: U-M English Department.** All age 21 & older invited to discuss *If on a Winter's Night a Traveler*, Italo Calvino's experimental novel about the role of literature in life. 7-9 p.m., 3154 Angell Hall, 435 S. State. Free. 764-2553.

★**Creative Writing Thesis Reading: U-M Residential College.** Graduating RC creative writing majors read their prose and poetry. 7 p.m., **RC Benzinger Library**, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 647-4354.

★**Martin Sexton: Liberty Borders.** CD release party for *Seeds*, the latest recording by this acclaimed singer-songwriter who performs tomorrow at the Michigan Theater (see listing). 7 p.m., **Borders**, 612 Liberty. Free. 677-6948.

★**"Michigan's State Forests: A Century of Stewardship": Sierra Club Book Club.** All invited to discuss William Botti and Michael Moore's account of the history of Michigan's state forests. 7:30 p.m., **Nicola's Books, Westgate shopping center**. Free. 971-1157.

★**"Polyanthus and Shrubs": Huron Valley Rose Society.** Club member Sarah Hanifi presents a slide-illustrated talk prepared by American Rose Society president Steve Jones. Refreshments. 7:30 p.m., **U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens**, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 424-9321.

★**"Chopin Project": U-M School of Music.** See 7 Saturday. Today: **Arthur Greene** performs a prelude and 3 mazurkas, **Polina Khatsko** performs 2 noc-

turnes and a fantasy, **Noel McRobbie** performs a fugue and an impromptu, **Kay Zavislak** performs a ballade, **Soyoung Park** performs a waltz, **Dmitri Vorobiev** performs a tarantella and a ballade, **Rajung Yang** performs a polonaise, and **Jei-Yern Ryu** performs a scherzo. Tonight's program begins with a talk by Southwestern College (Winfield, Kansas) music professor **Daniel Stevens**. 7:30 p.m.

★**Flute Choir: EMU Music Department.** Julie Stone and Amy Wagner direct this music-student ensemble in a varied program TBA. 8 p.m., **EMU Alexander Recital Hall**, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★**University Choir: U-M School of Music.** Paul Rardin and grad student conductors direct this music-student ensemble in the premiere of U-M music professor **Elwood Derr's** "Christ Crucified," "Repentants," and "O love, how deep." Also, works by English composers **Britten**, **Howells**, and **Vaughan Williams**, and Derr's "Wedding Hymn" and "Darest thou, O soul." 8 p.m., **Hill Auditorium**. Free. 764-0594.

★**"Comedy Night Benefit": U-M Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity.** Performance by stand-up comic **Steve Hofstetter**, a National Lampoon Radio *Sports Minute* host and *Sports Illustrated* columnist. Last year over 500 people attended the Comedy Show, which raised \$10,000 for charity. This year's show benefits the **Gary Green Foundation**. 8 p.m., **Michigan Theater**. Tickets \$15 in advance at omegafit.com/HHCH70 and (if available) at the door. (248) 425-2485.

Mason Jennings: The Blind Pig. Acclaimed young postpunk folk-rock troubadour from Minneapolis known for his insightful, earnestly incisive songs about romance, friendship, and the ways of the world. His music blends a variety of influences from punk and hip-hop to country blues and Appalachian balladry to north Indian *sarod* music and roots reggae. He has released 4 CDs, including *Simple Life*, a collection of acoustic renditions of some of his older songs. Opening act TBA. 8:30 p.m.-1 a.m. (doors open at 8 p.m.), **The Blind Pig**, 208 S. First. Tickets \$14 in advance at the **Michigan Union Ticket Office** & all other **Ticketmaster** outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645-6666.

FILMS

MTF. "The Namesake" (Jeff Lipsky, 2006). See 1 Sunday. Mich., times TBA. **WCBN-FM. "Repo Man"** (Alex Cox, 1984). A disgruntled young punk rocker discovers a disturbingly wacky alternate social universe when he takes a job as an apprentice repossessing cars. Classic punk soundtrack. **Harry Dean Stanton**, **Emilio Estevez**. FREE admission. 763-3500. Live at PJ's (102 S. First), 9 p.m.

11 WEDNESDAY

★**"Re-Visions: Rethinking Reading and Citizenship in Women's Prisons": U-M Center for Afroamerican and African Studies.** Talk by U-M English professor **Megan Sweeney**. Noon, **Haven Hall**, 505 S. State. Free. 764-5513.

★**Nintendo DS Fest: Ann Arbor District Library.** April 11-13. Players age 6 through adult are invited to bring their Nintendo DS to play video games and share tips and tricks. 1-4 p.m., **AADL multipurpose room** (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-8301.

U-M Baseball vs. Toledo. 3 p.m., **Ray Fisher Stadium**. \$5 (youths age 12 & under, \$3; U-M students, free). 764-0247.


★**"Gardening with Low Vision": Project Grow.** April 11 & 18. Talks by local gardening educator **LuAnne Bullington**. Today's topic: "Tips for Gardening with a Visual Impairment." Also: "Vegetable Gardening with a Visual Impairment" (April 18). 3-4 p.m., **Leslie Science Center**, 1831 Traver Rd. Free; donation encouraged. 996-3169.

★**"Reflections: Auschwitz, Memory, and a Life Re-created": Shaman Drum Bookshop.** U-M Residential College psychology professor and playwright **Henry Greenspan**, author of *On Listening to Holocaust Survivors: Recounting and Life History*, is on hand to sign copies of his new book, a memoir about memory that is the fruit of a 25-year conversation with Holocaust survivor **Agi Rubin**. 4 p.m., **Shaman Drum**, 315 S. State. Free. 662-7407.

★**"Rhythm and Roots": U-M Arts and Programs.** Sequential music and dance performances by a variety of student music and dance groups. 5:30-7:30 p.m., **Diag**. Free. 763-3202.

★**Ann Arbor Magic Club.** All amateur and professional magicians invited to an evening of socializing and discussion of the magical arts. 7 p.m., **Georgetown Country Club**, 1365 King George Blvd. Free. 482-9523.

★**"Truffles": Zingerman's Delicatessen.** April 11 & 12. Zingerman's chocolate experts show how to make your own truffles and offer taste comparisons of several chocolates on the market. 7-9 p.m., **Zingerman's Next Door** (upstairs kids room), 422 De-



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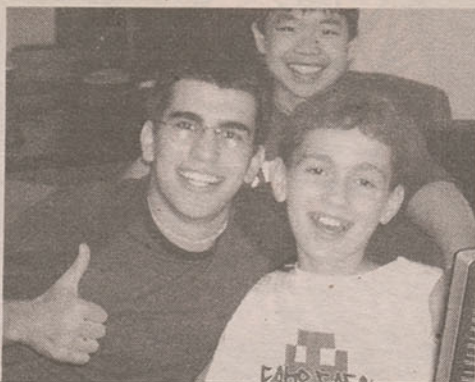
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11 WEDNESDAY continued

troit St. \$35. Space limited; reservations required. 663-3354.

★**"Relief from Arthritis": Whole Foods Market.** Talk by local chiropractor Shannon Dicks. 7-8 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyles Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Preregistration requested. 302-7575.

★**"Native Plants in Pots and Other Small Spaces": Wild Ones.** Talk by Radius Garden garden tool company founder Bruce Baker. 7 p.m., 125 U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1600 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 769-6981.

★**"Spring Cleaning Detoxification with Nutrition and Herbs": People's Food Co-op.** Talk by local naturopath Diana Quinn. 7-8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tearoom, 114 S. Main St. Free. 769-0095.

★**"Telemetry on 2M": Arrow Communication Association Amateur Radio Club.** WSU electrical and computer engineering professor James Woodyard discusses how he uses amateur radio in his research on adapting solar cells for space applications. Preceded by "ragchewing and socializing." 7 p.m., Washtenaw Community College room BE 182, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free to visitors (\$25 annual dues). 930-6564.

★**"The Art of the Cabaret Song": Ann Arbor District Library.** Ann Arbor District Library music specialist Richard LeSueur discusses and plays recorded examples of cabaret songs by Schoenberg, Satie, Poulenc, Britten, Pulitzer Prize-winning U-M music professor William Bolcom, and others. In conjunction with soprano Measha Brueggemann's UMS concert on April 12 (see listing). 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4560.

★**Romance and Fiction Readers Groups: Barnes & Noble.** All invited to join a discussion of *The Painted Veil*, Somerset Maugham's novel, recently made into an acclaimed movie, about a social-misfit British bacteriologist who persuades his new wife—who turns out to be a shallow adulteress—to accompany him to work in China. Refreshments. 7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

★**Arthur Phillips: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** This New York novelist, author of the critically acclaimed bestseller *Prague*, reads from *Angelica*, his new novel about a troubled Victorian housewife and mother of a young daughter that is part psychological puzzle, part Victorian ghost story, and part murder mystery. The story is told in 4 sections from 4 different perspectives, each one successively realigning the reader's allegiances. Signing. 7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662-7407.

★**Works-in-Progress Series: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** See 6 Wednesday. Tonight: poetry readings by Kelly Allen, a U-M creative writing grad whose work is known for its often strange and startling visions of the porous boundary between the self and the natural world, and Derek Mong, a University of Wisconsin poetry fellow whose work is known for its feel for the music of speech and its deft modulated tone. 7-9:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★**"Rhododendrons": Garden Club of Ann Arbor/Rhododendron Society.** Slide-illustrated talk by a speaker TBA. Refreshments. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 994-0747.

★**17th Annual Golden Apple Award: U-M Hillel.** Comparative politics and German studies professor Andrei ("Andy") Marcovits, winner of this annual award for outstanding undergraduate teaching on campus—U-M's only student-conferred teaching award—gives his "ideal last lecture." 7:30 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 769-0500.

★**History Readers Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** Retired social worker Myrna Lueck leads a discussion of *Custer Died for Your Sins*, Peter Vine Deloria's 1970 critique of the manner in which non-Native Americans appropriate Native American culture. 7:30 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 369-2499.

★**U.S. Army Band Brass Quintet: U-M School of Music Faulty Concert.** Program TBA. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baitis (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0583.

★**Rodney Crowell: The Ark.** This veteran country and country-rock singer-songwriter first gained attention in the 70s as a guitarist and principal songwriter in Emmylou Harris's band, and in the 80s he wrote hits for several country-pop performers, including Crystal Gayle and the Oak Ridge Boys. His 1988 CD *Diamonds & Dirt*, a collection of songs featuring Crowell's characteristic blend of amiable charm and lurking menace, spawned 5 hit singles, but his recent recordings—the starkly autobiographical 2001 CD

The Houston Kid, the ambitiously philosophical 2003 collection *Fate's Right Hand*, and the 2005 collection of political songs *The Outsider*—are widely regarded as the best work of his career. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$25 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

★**Martin Sexton: The Ark.** Widely acclaimed young singer-songwriter and virtuoso guitarist from Boston known for bold, thoughtful original songs that blend elements of early jazz, blues, and ragtime with the mannerisms of 70s black pop, and for dynamic vocals that range from falsetto crooning to muted trumpet sounds and occasionally even some unamplified a cappella yodeling. He's currently showcasing material from his new CD, *Seeds*, a collection of songs in a wide array of genres from gospel and country to blues and rock, all crafted with a keen pop sensibility. Opening act is Willy Porter, a pop-folk singer-songwriter from Milwaukee who gets most of his attention for his intricately virtuosic acoustic guitar playing. His music blends roots-pop with elements of funk and country. 7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$20-\$40 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

★**"When the Lights Come On": Purple Rose Theater Company.** See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

★**"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase.** See 4 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

FILMS

MTF. **"The Namesake"** (Jeff Lipsky, 2006). See 1 Sunday. Mich., times TBA.

12 THURSDAY

★**"Revisiting the 'Hysteria' Etiology of Hyperemesis Gravidarum with a Contemporary Lens": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender.** Talk by IRWG research professor Julia Seng. "Hyperemesis gravidarum" is known off-campus as morning sickness. Noon-1:30 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 764-9537.

★**"Tulip Mania": National Farm and Garden Association.** Talk by Troy Museum manager Lorraine Campbell. 12:30 p.m., Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 995-8441.

★**Matt Wertz: Liberty Borders.** CD release party for *Everything in Between*, this Kansas City-bred, Nashville-based singer-songwriter's new collection of soulful, funk-flavored acoustic pop love songs, both romantic and spiritual. 12:30 p.m., Borders, 612 Liberty. Free. 677-6948.

★**"Flower Arranging": Ikebana International Chapter 183.** Chapter president Nabuko Sakoda leads a session of ikebana, the Japanese art of flower arrangement. Call for instructions on equipment to bring. 1 p.m., University Commons, 817 Asa Gray Dr. (off Huron Pkwy.). \$10 (members, \$5) materials fee. (248) 685-7696.

★**"Beaded Bracelets for Teens": Ann Arbor District Library.** Kids in grades 6-12 invited to make a bracelet using simple patterns and beads. Supplies provided. 2-4 p.m., AADL Northeast Branch, Plymouth Mall. Free. 327-4200.

★**"Tea with the Fairies": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** Crazy Wisdom staff dress up as magical fairies to sprinkle fairy dust and serve tea to kids and families. At 5 p.m., Crazy Wisdom fairy expert Nicole Beattie presents fairy stories and readings. Bring your own fairy wings and dolls. 4-6 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. \$5. 665-2757.

★**"Water and Climate": U-M Natural Resources and Environment.** Talk by Pacific Institute for Studies in Development, Environment, and Security president Peter Gleick. 5-6 p.m., 1040 Dana, 440 Church St. Free. 647-7808.

★**James Alan McPherson: U-M English Department.** Fiction reading by this Pulitzer Prize-winning writer and essayist, whose new novel, as yet untitled, is due out this summer. McPherson has been praised for his depictions of African Americans coping with the vagaries of everyday life. "McPherson is one of those rare writers who can tell a story, describe shadings of character, and make sociological observations with equal subtlety," says the *New Yorker* in its review of his short story collection *Elbow Room*. 5 p.m., Michigan League Vandenberg Room. Free. 615-3710.

★**"British": Arbor Brewing Company Beer Tasting.** A chance to sample and learn about more than 2 dozen of the best ales of England, Scotland, and Ireland. Also, a drawing for beer-related prizes. The price of admission includes unlimited beer sampling and a German appetizer buffet. 7-9 p.m., Arbor Brewing Company, 114 E. Washington. Tickets \$25 in advance and (if available) at the door. 213-1393.

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singer-songwriters

Cheryl Wheeler *Hero, worshipped*

Last fall I got a call to play an opening slot at a really nice music series in Royal Oak. I jumped at the chance for the usual reasons. But one reason outshone them all: I could maybe, just maybe, meet the featured act, folk diva Cheryl Wheeler.

I've watched and admired Wheeler for years at various festivals. As much as this is possible while wearing a rumpled T-shirt and pants, she positively shone as MC of the 2006 Ann Arbor Folk Festival, flitting from deadpan skewering of fundamentalist Christians to warm, evocative songs about deep, true love and back to stories about brassieres with utter fluidity and grace. Here was my chance to watch her act up close, to ask her some questions, and, quite possibly, to thoroughly embarrass myself.

The thing about opening for Cheryl Wheeler is the conundrum about funny and clever songs: to do, or not to do. It doesn't really matter how funny and clever your songs are; if you sing them before Cheryl Wheeler takes the stage—well, let's just say that my funny and clever songs, such as they are, covered like damp kittens in the back of my throat. I finished my set and left the stage.

After intermission, I found a seat in the back row and settled in for some quality Wheeler time. This Massachusetts-based singer-songwriter-comedian has spent



decades fine-tuning her niche in the folk world; the result is an act that masterfully blends blisteringly on-target observational humor, simple storytelling, gorgeous guitar work, and beautiful, rich songs.

There's no "show"—it's just Wheeler, being herself. She talked about having an in-ground swimming pool installed at her home and the surprising tip she read in a magazine for looking slim in a bathing suit. A lesbian, she talked about how much it meant for her to be able to marry her longtime partner. There was, of course, a good bit of delicious discussion about right-wing ideology, and there were stories about her beloved dogs. There was a sweet song about her father, another one about her lover, and (I'd hoped she'd sing this) "Potato"—a true tour de force of syllabic stress-play, sung to what I believe is the Mexican Hat Dance. It was a remarkable, intelligent, soulful show. The audience soaked it up and begged for more, but

Wheeler's a no-nonsense gal, and when she was done, she was done. I wanted to meet her more than ever, but in the throng of the lobby, I was overcome with shyness. From the parking lot, I saw her quickstep to her nondescript sedan and climb inside. Then she pulled right up to me to turn around. Here was my chance. . . . Our eyes met. But this little opening act just smiled and said nothing, and Cheryl Wheeler drove away.

Cheryl Wheeler is at the Ark Thursday, April 12.

—Whit Hill

★**Denny McLain: Arborland Borders.** The former Tigers pitcher discusses his memoir *I Told You I Wasn't Perfect*. Signing. 7 p.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948.

★**"Animanga Club for Teens":** Ann Arbor District Library. All anime and manga fans in grades 6-12 are invited to share their enthusiasm for these Japanese art forms, do some crafts, and watch episodes from the American TV series *Avatar: The Last Airbender*. Free Pocky, a Japanese novelty snack popular with anime fans. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Northeast Branch, Plymouth Mall. Free. 327-4200.

★**Annual Banquet: Huron Hills Lapidary & Mineral Society.** Club member Bill Barr gives a slide-illustrated talk on "Agates." Bring a dish to pass and your own table service for the potluck dinner. Also, silent auction of rocks, minerals, jewelry, and other rockhound items. Also, 7 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh at Davis. Free. 434-8517.

★**"An Introduction to Positive Thinking: The Study of What Makes Life Worth Living":** Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by U-M psychology professor Christopher Peterson. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, lower level, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4560.

★**"Super Mom Saves the World":** Nicola's Books. Novelist Melanie Hauser discusses her comic novel about a divorced mother with superpowers that resulted from an accident with cleaning products. 7 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

★**"Dismantling Monoculture: Tales of Ants and Economics in the Americas":** Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice. The 15-member Maine-based political arts organization *The Beehive Collective* discusses the connections between colonization, militarization, and resource extraction in the Americas,

using 3 large portable hand-illustrated murals and a 6-foot-tall fabric flip book "with enlarged sections of the murals. 7 p.m., Michigan League Henderson Room. Free. 663-1870.

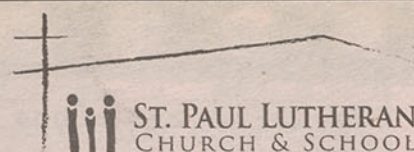
★**History of Books & Printing Reading Group:** Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. All invited to join a discussion of James Keenan's *The Art of the Bookplate*. Refreshments. 7:30-9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669-0451.

★**"Tommy":** U-M Musical Theater Department. April 12-15. U-M dance professor Linda Goodrich directs the Who songwriter Pete Townsend and Des McAnuff's Tony-winning 1993 Broadway musical, an adaptation of the Who's 1969 rock opera about a traumatized boy who finds international renown—and eventual salvation—though his talent for pinball. The muscular pop-rock score features such favorites as "Pinball Wizard," "I'm Free," and "See Me, Feel Me." 7:30 p.m., Mendelsohn Theater. Tickets \$16 & \$22 (students, \$9) at the Michigan League Box Office in advance and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538.

★**Oboe Recital:** EMU Music Department. Kristy Meretta directs her students in a variety of works for oboe and English horn. 7:30 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★**"Masculinity Theory: Secular Meets Sacred":** U-M Center for Faith and Scholarship. Talk by Calvin College communication professor Helen Sterk. 8 p.m., Michigan Union Kuenzel Room. Free. 668-7421.

★**Mack McCray:** U-M School of Music Faulty Concert. This San Francisco Conservatory piano professor, an internationally renowned recitalist who performed the American premiere of John Adams's *Eros Piano* in 1991, performs works by Haydn, Liszt, and Beethoven. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital



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12 THURSDAY continued

Hall, 1100 Baitz (off Broadway), North Campus.
Free. 764-0583.

Cheryl Wheeler: The Ark. See review, p. 83. This versatile veteran singer-songwriter is known for her hauntingly pure voice, biting sense of humor, and alternately poignant and whimsical songs about human relationships and everyday life. Her songs have been recorded by the likes of Suzy Bogguss, Nanci Griffith, Maura O'Connell, and Bette Midler, and her latest CD, *Sylvia Hotel*, is a rich musical blend of folk, country, rock, and pop influences. 8 p.m., *The Ark*, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$25 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

"The Cripple of Inishmaan": U-M Basement Arts. April 12-14. Rachael Brody directs Martin McDonagh's darkly comic 1997 play about a crippled teen who schemes to get a part in *Man of Aran*, Robert Flaherty's 1934 documentary film about life on the barren Aran Islands off the western Irish coast. 7 p.m., Walgreen Drama Center Studio One, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764-6800.

Measha Brueggergosman: University Musical Society. See review, p. 79. This award-winning young Canadian soprano graced the Hill Auditorium re-opening concert in 2004 with a Massenet aria, and when a colleague fell ill, she wowed the audience by effortlessly switching genres to perform a program of cabaret songs by local Pulitzer Prize-winning composer William Bolcom, with Bolcom at the keyboard. Tonight she also performs several of Bolcom's cabaret songs, with Bolcom again at the keyboard, and, accompanied by her longtime collaborator J. J. Penna, cabaret songs by other composers. Brueggergosman is sometimes compared to a young Jessye Norman, thanks to her beguiling stage presence, her flamboyant look, and a voice that combines a mezzo's heft with a diamondlike soprano brilliance. A *Halifax Herald* critic calls her "an actress to her fingertips, with an acute, intuitive sense of the dramatic moment in a song." Preceded at 5:30 p.m. in the Alumni Center by a prelude dinner (\$40). Also, on April 11 a talk at the district library on "The Art of the Cabaret Song" (see listing). 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets \$10-\$50 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538.

"When the Lights Come On": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Candida": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Ricky Gutierrez: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. April 12-14. Ann Arbor debut of this L.A. comic known for his observational stories and quips rooted in the perspective of traditional Latino values. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Friday early show is a nonsmoking show. 8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. \$7 (Thurs.) & \$10 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$9 (Thurs.) & \$12 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

Dave Liebman: Michigan Union Arts & Programs. Jazz ensemble led by this New York jazz saxophonist and flutist who's played with the likes of Chick Corea, Dave Holland, and Miles Davis. Opening act is a student jazz group TBA. Note: People not affiliated with the U-M must arrive at the Union by 9 p.m. 8:30 p.m., Michigan Union room TBA. Free. 763-3202.

FILMS

M-Agination. "Kind of a Big Deal." Screening of several U-M student directors' versions of a screenplay about a couple discussing separation. FREE. 763-1107. Michigan Theater, 7:30 p.m.: **Whole Foods Market. "An Inconvenient Truth"** (Davis Guggenheim, 2006). Al Gore's Oscar-winning documentary about global warming. Noon & 6 p.m., Whole Foods, 3135 Washtenaw. FREE. Reservations recommended. 975-4500. MTF. **"The Namesake"** (Jeff Lipsky, 2006). See 1 Sunday. Mich., times TBA.

13 FRIDAY

"The Myth of the International Community": U-M Institute for the Humanities/Rackham Graduate School Perspectives on Human Rights Seminar Series. Talk by Wellesley College sociology professor Thomas Cushman, founder of the *Journal of Human Rights*. Noon, 202 Thayer, 202 S. Thayer. Free. 936-3518.

"Gender, Culture, and Care": U-M Center for Faith and Scholarship. Talk by Calvin College communication professor Helen Sterk. 8 p.m., Michigan Union Kuenzel Room. Free. 668-7421.

"States of Entertainment: Nostalgia, Spectacle, and Population Engineering in Indonesia": U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies. Talk by U-M

anthropology lecturer Eric Stein. Noon-1:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-0352.

"The Yiddish Group: Jewish Community Center. Screening of *The Shop on Main Street* (Jan Kadar and Elmar Klos, 1965), a moving, intimate, Oscar-winning melodrama, set during WW II as the Nazis inch closer, about a Slovak man who oversees a tiny button shop run by an elderly Jewish widow. Czech, subtitles. Followed by discussion. All invited. 1:30-3 p.m., JCC Newman Room, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971-0990.

"Anti-Semitism in Germany and Austria": U-M Center for Judaic Studies. Talk by Oxford University government professor Peter Pulzer. 1:30-3 p.m., Modern Languages Bldg. 3rd floor conference room, 812 E. Washington. Free. 763-9047.

Arie Lipsky and Friends: Jewish Community Center Matinee Musicale Series. All seniors invited to a recital by an ensemble, led by AASO music director and cellist Lipsky, that includes violinist Yizhak Schotten, pianist Katherine Collier, and violinist Kathryn Votapek. The program includes the first major piece for piano quartet, Mozart's revolutionary Piano Quartet in G Minor, and Schumann's Piano Quartet in E-flat Major. 1:30 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$7. 971-0990.

"The Pharmaceutical Person": U-M Department of Anthropology. NYU anthropology professor Emily Martin discusses the recent centrality of psychotropic drugs and other pharmaceuticals in everyday life. 4 p.m., 418 West Hall, 1085 South University. Free. 764-7274.

"A Change of the Past in Modern Indian Art": U-M Center for South Asian Studies. Talk by U-M art history and philosophy professor Daniel Herwitz. 5 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-5261.

Guitar Hero 2: Ann Arbor District Library. Players grade 6 through adult are invited to bring their Gibson Mini-SG controllers and compete for prizes. 6-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-8301.

"Laugh, Love, Live... Anyway!": Chelsea Area Players. April 13 & 14. Diana Hunt directs local actors ages 7-88 in a dinner theater production of CAP's original play about the community chorale of a small town in crisis. When the town's major employer goes bankrupt, the chorus decides to put on a show to cheer everyone up. In the process, they discover mutual support, companionship, and hope. Highlights include a performance by Doug Worthington and John Daly of "Frontier Accountant Medley," a musical bit about 2 cowboys who long to be accountants, and 9-year-old Brigitte Demelo's performance of her original monologue. Also, Nancy Daly sings the "Habanera" from Bizet's *Carmen*, Charlotte Squires sings and dances to the 1926 popular standard "Bye Bye Blackbird," and Sarah Oberholtzer, Katie Sullivan, and Emily Simons sing "A Couple of Swells" from the Broadway musical *Easter Parade*. 6:30 p.m., Chelsea Community Hospital Dining Room, 775 S. Main, Chelsea. Tickets \$30. (888) 774-4117.

"Take Back the Night": Ann Arbor Coalition Against Rape. A rally to demonstrate against rape, followed at 8 p.m. by a march from the Diag to South University to State and west on Madison to Thompson, then on William to Fourth and up Liberty to State and back to the Diag. 7 p.m., U-M Diag. Free. 358-0842.

Crazy Wisdom Reading Circle: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. All invited to discuss *The Gods Drink Whiskey: Stumbling Toward Enlightenment in the Land of the Tattered Buddha*, Stephen Asma's memoir of his journey to Cambodia to explore the practice of Theravada Buddhism there. 7-9:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

Xiu Xiu: The Blind Pig. All ages admitted. Experimental indie rock band from San Jose, led by singer-songwriter Jamie Stewart, whose songs set bleak lyrics to music that fuses a number of stylistic influences from punk and noise to ambient and classical. Opening act is *Sunset Rubdown*, an indie rock quartet from Montreal. 7:30-10 p.m. (doors open at 7 p.m.), *The Blind Pig*, 208 S. Ashley. Tickets \$15 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, \$12 at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645-6666.

Concordia University Wind Ensemble: Concordia University. Emily Threinen conducts the ensemble in a program of sacred and secular music. 7:30 p.m., Concordia Chapel of the Holy Trinity, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Free. 995-4616.

"Mr. B's 10th Annual Blues & Boogie Piano Celebration": The Ark. April 13 & 14. Ann Arbor's own world-renowned blues pianist, Mark "Mr. B" Braun, hosts 2 nights of blues and boogie-woogie piano that feature Ken Saydak, a veteran Chicago blues and

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jump blues pianist who has performed as a sideman with the likes of Lonnie Brooks and Johnny Winter, and Carl "Sonny" Leyland, an English-bred pianist known for his mastery of the music of early boogie-woogie greats like Jimmy Yancey, Meade Lux Lewis, and Albert Ammons. Also joining the festivities again this year is Bob Seeley, the veteran Detroit blues pianist renowned for his electrifying, passionate renditions of boogie classics. The show features solo sets by each performer, followed by a series of duets. 7:30 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$27.50 (Apr. 13) & \$30 (Apr. 14) in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

★"Iphigenia and Other Daughters"/"The Cure at Troy": U-M Residential College Drama Concentration. April 13 & 14. U-M drama lecturer Kate Mendeloff directs RC students in 2 contemporary adaptations of classical Greek tragedy, American playwright Ellen McLaughlin's 1995 feminist take on Agamemnon's daughters as they are portrayed in Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides, and Irish poet Seamus Heaney's 1990 version of Sophocles' *Philoctetes*. 7:30 p.m., U-M Residential College Auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 647-4354.

★Advanced Study Group: Rudolf Steiner Study Circle of Ann Arbor. April 13 & 27. All invited to join this ongoing study group to discuss Rudolf Steiner's book *The Threshold of the Spiritual World*. Familiarity with Steiner's basic ideas required. 8-9:30 p.m., 33 Ridgeway East, 1 block east of the Arb entrance on Geddes. Free. 662-6398.

★Student Woodwind Chamber Music Recital: U-M School of Music. Music students perform works TBA. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0583.

2nd Friday Advanced English Dance. Dan Blim, Ruth Sodel, Don Theyken, and Mark Hillegonds lead English country dancing for experienced dancers, with music by Childgrove. Fast pace, with limited walk-throughs. 8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94). \$10. 665-7704.

★Symphony Orchestra: EMU Music Department. Kevin Miller directs this music-student ensemble in Rossini's *Introduction, Theme, and Variations* with clarinet soloist Michael Scheuerman, one of the winners of this year's EMU Concerto and Aria Competition. 8 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.


★Chamber Choir: U-M School of Music. Paul Rardin, Carole Ott, and Eugene Rogers conduct this music-student ensemble in the late U-M composition professor William Albright's "Take Up the Song" and U-M music school grad Mark Kilstofte's *Grandeur*. Also, Walton's *Coronation Te Deum*, Penderecki's "Agnus Dei," Rautavaara's "Credo" and *Suite de Lorca*, Ligeti's "Ejszaka" and "Reggel," Smith's "Blessed Assurance," and an arrangement of "Rockin' Jerusalem." 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0583.

Tim Grimm: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Well-crafted story songs about the dreams and realities of American lives by this award-winning Indiana-bred roots music singer-songwriter. Desserts & coffee available. 8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. \$12 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665-8558.

"The Piano as Orchestra": Kerrytown Concert House. Performance by pianist Christopher Kabala, a U-M music school grad who has appeared as a conductor, chamber musician, and soloist with prominent ensembles around the world. Program: Beethoven's *Eroica Variations*, Gluck's *Dance of the Blessed Spirits*, Liszt's transcription of *Isolde's Liebestod* from Wagner's *Tristan and Isolde*, and Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10-\$25 (students, \$5). Reservations suggested. 769-2999.

John Williams and John Etheridge: University Musical Society. Williams, a celebrated Australian classical guitarist whose concerts and recordings have inspired a resurgence of interest in the classical guitar, and versatile English jazz guitarist Etheridge join forces to perform a program of solos and duets that fuse classical, jazz, and world-music influences. "Their styles may be very different, but their recent duet album, *Places Between*, revealed plenty of fertile middle ground," says a *This Is London* critic. 8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Tickets \$22-\$42 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538.

★"Connect Four": U-M Dance Department Choreographic Production and Design Concert. April 13 & 14. An evening of new group works choreographed by U-M dance grad students. 8 p.m., U-M



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13 FRIDAY continued

Dance Bldg. Betty Pease Dance Studio, 1310 North University Ct. Free. 763-5460.

★“Chasing a Tale: Ramayana Performances from India and Thailand”: U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies. April 13 & 14. A two-part program featuring an Eastern Indian dance and a modern theater work, both inspired by the 2,300-year-old Sanskrit epic poem about the life of Prince Rama, an incarnation of the god Vishnu. The dance segment, which showcases India's powerful, sensually sculptural Odissi style, is performed by members of Srishiti Dances of India, a Pittsburgh-based Indian dance troupe led by Ann Arborite Sreyashi Dey. U-M visiting artist in residence Pomrat Damrhang directs *Seeda, Tell Our Stories*, a modern theater work she created in collaboration with her students that incorporates traditional Thai theater elements to highlight the individual power and worth of Rama's wife. 8 p.m., U-M Duderstadt Media Center, 2281 Bonisteel, North Campus. Free. 764-0352.

★“You Know I Can't Hear You When the Water's Running”: Dexter Community Players. April 13, 14, 20, & 21. Bridgit Cook and Jason Smith direct local actors in Robert Anderson's funny, touching Broadway comedy consisting of 4 short plays about sex in all of its manifestations. 8 p.m., Dexter High School Copeland Auditorium, 7714 Dexter-Ann Arbor Rd., Dexter. Free. 604-4864.

★“The Cripple of Inishmaan”: U-M Basement Arts. See 12 Thursday. 7 & 11 p.m.

★“Tommy”: U-M Musical Theater Department. See 12 Thursday. 8 p.m.

★“When the Lights Come On”: Purple Rose Theater Company. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

★“In the Heart of America”: Blackbird Theater Productions. See 6 Friday. 8 p.m.

★“Candida”: Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Ricky Gutierrez: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 12 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

FILMS

U-M Campus Chapel. “The Squid and the Whale” (Noah Baumbach, 2005). An egotistical professor and his unfaithful wife who messily separate try to achieve a tenuous equilibrium through a half-baked joint custody arrangement. Jeff Daniels, Laura Linney. FREE. 668-7421. Campus Chapel Center for Faith and Scholarship (1236 Washtenaw Ct.), 8 p.m.

14 SATURDAY

★“Bird Hike”: Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. Hudson Mills naturalist Jennifer Hollenbeck leads a morning hike to look for birds in a variety of habitats and record their locations. Bring binoculars and a field guide. 7:30 a.m., Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. \$2. Preregistration required. Vehicle entrance fees: \$4/day, \$20/year (\$12 for seniors age 62 & over). 434-1615, 426-8211.

Ann Arbor Antiques Market. April 14 & 15. From its small Farmers' Market niche 30 years ago, this show has grown to national importance, with more than 300 antiques and collectibles dealers. It's the nation's largest monthly antiques show, and some say the best. No reproductions are allowed, experts check every booth, and the items' authenticity is guaranteed. This market is also an important source for dealers nationwide. Deliveries available; food for sale. No pets. Managed by Nancy and Woody Straub. 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. \$6 (children 12 & under accompanied by an adult, free). Free parking. (850) 984-0122 (before the show), 429-3145 (day of show).

★Restoration Work Day: U-M Nichols Arboretum. All invited to help Arb director Bob Grese and Arb staff members remove invasive plants and prepare new planting sites. Dress for outdoor work. Snacks and tools provided; bring loppers or pruners if you wish. 9 a.m.-noon, meet at an Arb location TBA. Free. 998-9540.

★“Huron River Cleanup”: Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation. All invited to join crews from the Great Lakes Environmental Research Lab and the EPA to clean up debris from targeted areas of the Huron from Barton Creek to Gallup Park. Bring your own canoe or use one of the city's. 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Gallup Park canoe livery, 3000 Fuller Rd. (west side of Huron Pkwy.). Free. To register your crew or join an existing one, call David Fanslow at 741-2353.

★“Go Solar!”: Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association. GLREA staff discuss this program that allows cooperating homeowners to make economical bulk purchases of solar heating equipment. 10-11:30 a.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisen-

hower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. Preregistration requested. (800) 434-9788.

★“Surprising Alternatives to Dairy”: U-M Turner Geriatrics Center. Natural health educator and fitness expert Nia-Avelina Aguirre hosts a breakfast showcasing foods and drinks that are healthier choices than dairy. 10:30 a.m.-noon, Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. \$3. Preregistration required. 998-9353.

★Furstenberg Native Plant Garden: Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation Division. All invited to join master gardener Aunita Erskine to spruce up the city's native plant garden and learn about what's in it. 9 a.m.-noon, meet in the Furstenberg parking lot off Fuller Rd. across from Huron High School. Free. 996-3266.

★“Plant Breeding for the Home Gardener”: Project Grow. Talk by prize-winning local gardener Royer Held. 10-11:30 a.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Free; donation appreciated. 996-3169.

★Volunteer Stewardship Workday: Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation Division. See 1 Sunday. Today: a trip to Lakewood Nature Area to remove invasive shrubs. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Lakewood Nature Area, meet in the Lakewood Elementary School parking lot off Gralake (3 blocks south from Jackson Ave. between Maple & Wagner). Free. 996-3266.

★“Saturday Morning Physics”: U-M Physics Department. April 14 & 21. Popular series of talks, aimed at general audiences, by U-M faculty. Today: physics professor Caglian Kurdak discusses “Electronics of the Future.” Also this month: geology professor emeritus Henry Pollack on “Earth's Changing Climate: What's in Store for the Future?” (March 24). Breakfast refreshments. 10:30-11:30 a.m., 170 Dennison, 501 East University. Free. 764-4437.

★“Eating to Maintain Vitality”: Whole Foods Market. Talk by local naturopath Audrey Blagsvedt. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations recommended. 975-4500.

★“Dance Dance Revolution”: Ann Arbor District Library. All invited to compete in tournaments of this computer-guided movement game. Participants can compete by themselves in beginner and standard brackets or as a team in a parent & kid bracket. Prizes. 1-4 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-8301.

★“Super Science Shows”: Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum Family Day. Every Saturday & Sunday beginning April 14 except Family Days April 21 & 22. Museum staff give family-friendly science demos. 1 & 3 p.m., Hands-On Museum, 220 E. Ann. \$7 (members and infants free) regular museum admission. 995-5439.

Open House: U-M Detroit Observatory. April 14 & 29. Docent-guided tours, about 30 minutes long, of the photographs and artifacts in this restored 19th-century observatory museum. Also, a chance to pull the rope and rotate the telescope dome. 1-4 p.m., U-M Detroit Observatory, 1398 E. Ann at Observatory. \$5 suggested donation (U-M students, free). 763-2230.

★Loren Estleman and Denise Swanson: Aunt Agatha's. These 2 mystery writers talk about and sign copies of their latest books. In Estleman's 19th Amos Walker novel, *American Detective*, his popular Detroit private detective investigates the mysterious death of the daughter of a retired Tigers pitcher Walker has been helping with his troubles with the IRS. In Swanson's *Murder of a Botoxed Blonde*, the 9th book in her series featuring the small-town Illinois school psychologist Skye Dennison, Dennison investigates the death of a former model at a health spa where she's spending Thanksgiving weekend. 1:30 p.m., Aunt Agatha's, 213 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 769-1114.

★“Spring into Gardening”: Waterloo Recreation Area. Master gardener Sharon Sohoza discusses the ins and outs of preparing the soil, seed starting, new and old garden beds, and more, along with offering some tips on spring cleaning. Participants plant an herb or flower seed to take home. 2 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd. (west from Pierce Rd. off I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. Free. Space limited; preregistration required. Vehicle entrance fees: \$6/day, \$24/year (\$6/year for seniors age 65 & over). 475-3170.

★“Mission: Prom”: Ann Arbor District Library. All girls in grades 9-12 invited to bring in an old prom dress to swap or just take one of the prom dresses donated to the library. Also, free makeovers and do-it-yourself shoe embellishments. 2-4 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4560.

★“Chasing a Tale: Ramayana Performances from India and Thailand”: U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies. See 13 Friday. 2 p.m.

★Trumpet Ensemble: EMU Music Department. This ensemble of EMU music students and alumni



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performs an eclectic program of music for trumpet ensembles. 3 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

***"Martial Arts Fitness Day":** Ann Arbor Quest Martial Arts. All invited to try an aerobic version of martial arts. Wear loose-fitting clothing. 3-5 p.m., location TBA. Free. 332-1800.

***"Bear Stories!":** Whole Foods Market. Local storyteller Rowena Conahan tells stories and teaches songs to kids ages 4-8, and helps them with crafts. 3-3:45 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations recommended. 975-4500.

"Children of the Fire: Improvisational Dance": Nightfire Dance Theater. Nightfire director Irena Nagler leads dancing to an eclectic mix of recorded music, drawing on kinesthetic sense and imagery based on the building of a fire and other natural elements. 3:30-5:30 p.m., Sun Moon Yoga Studio, 404 W. Huron. \$10 (students & seniors, \$5), 996-1772.

***In Good Company African American Book Club:** Nicola's Books. All invited to join a discussion of *Fledgling*, Octavia Butler's novel about an amnesiac girl who discovers she's a genetically modified vampire. 4 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 942-6013.

Women's Glee Club: U-M School of Music. Julie Skadsem conducts this non-music-student ensemble in Steve Hopkins's "Dear John, Dear John (Punctuated by Love)," James McCray's "Gloria in Excelsis Deo," MacGillivray's "Here's to Song," Stephen Hatfield's "Las Amarillas," Gwyneth Walker's "Love Is a Rain of Diamonds," Srul Irving Glick's "Magic Prayer," Philip Silvey's "Morning Moon," William Dawson's "There Is a Balm in Gilead," and J. S. Bach's "Wir eilen mit schwachen, doch emsigen Schritten," and other works. 4 p.m., First Congregational Church, 608 E. William. Tickets \$8 (students, \$5) at the door only. 764-0583.

NCAA Regionals: U-M Women's Gymnastics. The U-M team, ranked #1 nationally in mid-March, is expected to be one of the 4 teams competing in this regional for one of the 6 spots in the NCAA championships at Oregon State later this month. 6 p.m., Crisler Arena, S. State at Hoover. \$6. 764-0247.

"Swing into Spring": Rotary Club of Ann Arbor North. Dinner followed by dancing to recorded music from the 40s through the latest dance hits by DJ Tom Walthall. Instructors from Moonlight Dance Studio and Boutique are on hand to teach a variety of dance steps. Silent auction. 6-11 p.m., Holiday Inn North Campus, 3600 Plymouth Rd. \$50 in advance only. 971-8800, ext. 211; 971-7100, ext. 223.

"Laugh, Love, Live . . . Anyway!": Chelsea Area Players. See 13 Friday. 6:30 p.m.

U-M Men's Lacrosse vs. Brigham Young. 7 p.m., Oosterbaan Field House, Hoover at S. State. \$6 (students, \$3). 764-0247.

***"Chopin Project":** U-M School of Music. See 7 Saturday. Today: Arthur Greene performs 4 mazurkas and a barcarolle. Also, Cathal Breslin performs a polonaise, Christina Thayer performs a waltz and a moderato, Polina Khatsko performs 3 mazurkas, Noel McRobbie performs 2 mazurkas, Svetlana Smolina performs a largo and 3 waltzes, Rebecca Choi performs 2 nocturnes, Olga Cleianchina performs 3 mazurkas, Dmitri Vorobiev performs 3 mazurkas, 2 nocturnes, and a galop, and Kay Zavislak performs the Berceuse in D-flat Major. 7:30 p.m.

"Mr. B's 10th Annual Blues & Boogie Piano Celebration": The Ark. See 13 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

***"Iphigenia and Other Daughters"/"The Cure at Troy":** U-M Residential College Drama Concentration. See 13 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

International Folk Dancing. April 14 & 21. Dancing to music by Veselba (April 14) and the Ethnic Connection (April 21). No partner needed. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a dance lesson. 8-11 p.m., Gretchen's House, 2625 Traver. \$5-\$10 (students, \$3-\$5) donation. 995-0011.

***Percussion Ensemble:** U-M School of Music. Michael Udow leads this music-student ensemble in a complete performance of *Drumming*, Steve Reich's monumental 4-part work that lasts 55-75 minutes (depending on the number of repeats) and is performed without pause. The 4 sections, in turn, are scored for 2 tuned bongos, 3 marimbas played by 9 marimbists and 2 women's voices, 3 glockenspiels by 4 musicians together with whistling and piccolo, and all the earlier instruments and voices combined. The performance is in honor of Reich's 70th birthday. 8 p.m., U-M Music School McIntosh Theater, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway). Free. 764-0583.

"Night of the Amphibians": Waterloo Natural History Association. Naturalists Dorothy Blanchard and Tom Hodgson discuss and display live frogs, toads, and salamanders and lead a night walk to a nearby spring pond to look and listen for them. Bring a flashlight, dress for the weather, and be prepared to get your feet wet. 8-9:30 p.m., Eddy Discovery Cen-

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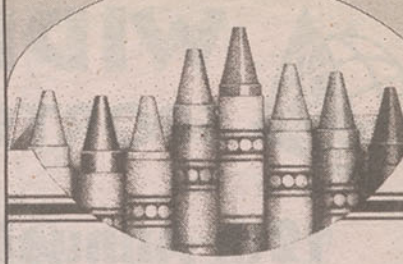
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14 SATURDAY continued

ter lower parking lot, Bush Rd. (west off Pierce Rd. from I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. \$2 (family, \$5; WNHA members, free). Space limited; preregistration required. Vehicle entrance fees: \$6/day, \$24/year (\$6/year for seniors age 65 & over). 475-3170.

147th Annual U-M Men's Glee Club: U-M School of Music. Paul Rardin conducts this popular U-M student men's chorus, the country's second-oldest college glee club, which is joined for this concert by members of the 1967 club. The program includes the world premiere of "From Me and America Sent," a work by Twin Cities composer Edie Hill commissioned by the glee club. Also, Walter Piston's "Carnival Song," Lon Beery's "I Believe," Gregorio Allegri's "Miserere mei, Deus," Mark Templeton's arrangement of "Ariang," Ethan Sperry's arrangement of "Chickens in the Garden," Paul Carey's "Jenny Kiss'd Me," and the club's newest Michigan song, "Michigan Remember." 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets \$15 (students with ID, \$5) in advance and at the door. 764-1448.

Matt Endahl's Symbology: Canterbury House. Jazzy experimental screamo by this ensemble led by jazz pianist Endahl, a U-M student whose influences include Paul Bley, Miles Davis, Don Ellis, Keith Jarrett, Captain Beefheart, Bill Evans, and Herbie Hancock. 8 p.m., Canterbury House, 721 E. Huron. \$10 (students, \$5). 764-3162.

"Italian Baroque Music for Guitar/Archlute and Cello": Academy of Early Music. Baroque guitarist and archlutenist Manuel Minguillon and baroque cellist Nika Zlataric, both Eastman School of Music grad students, present a program of 17th- and 18th-century Italian music, including works by Vivaldi, Frescobaldi, Zamboni, Vitali, Doni, and Gabrieli. 8 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. \$15 (seniors, \$12; students & St. Andrew's parishioners, \$5) at the door only. 695-5758.

"Dances in the Key of A2": Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. AASO music director Arie Lipsky conducts the orchestra in a program of dances that includes John Harbison's dark, jazzy, F. Scott Fitzgerald-inspired *Remembering Gatsby*, Bernstein's *Symphonic Dances from "West Side Story"*, Rachmaninoff's *Symphonic Dances*, and Haydn's *Violin Concerto no. 1 in C Major*. Featured performer is AASO concertmaster Aaron Berofsky. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a lecture-demo by Lipsky, free to ticketholders, about tonight's program. 8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$10-\$42 in advance at the AASO office, 527 E. Liberty, suite 208. \$25 dinner-and-concert package available for those ages 21-39. Half-price rush tickets for students with ID at the door only. 994-4801.

Ballroom Dancing Night: Pittsfield Township Parks and Recreation Department. Ballroom dancing to recorded music from the 40s through the 80s. Preceded at 7 p.m. by an introduction to basic dance steps and ballroom dancing styles by Sue Bareis, Washtenaw County's best-known ballroom dance instructor. All invited, singles as well as couples. Refreshments. 8-10:30 p.m., Pittsfield Twp. Recreation Hall, S. State at Ellsworth. \$4. 822-2120.

★Women's Chorus: EMU Music Department. Ernest Brandon conducts this EMU music-student chorus in its annual spring concert. 8 p.m., Holy Trinity Chapel, 511 W. Forest, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★"Connect Four": U-M Dance Department Choreographic Production and Design Concert. See 13 Friday, 8 p.m.

2nd Saturday Contra Dance. Don Theyken calls contras to music by the Sharon Hollow String Band. No partner needed. Wear flat, smooth-soled shoes. Beginners welcome. 8 p.m., Webster Community Hall, Webster Church Rd. between Joy and North Territorial, Dexter. \$8. 996-8359.

★"The Cripple of Inishmaan": U-M Basement Arts. See 12 Thursday, 7 p.m.

"You Know I Can't Hear You When the Water's Running": Dexter Community Players. See 13 Friday, 8 p.m.

"In the Heart of America": Blackbird Theater Productions. See 6 Friday, 8 p.m.

"Tommy": U-M Musical Theater Department. See 12 Thursday, 8 p.m.

"When the Lights Come On": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 5 Thursday, 3 & 8 p.m.

"Candida": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday, 3 & 8 p.m.

Ricky Gutierrez: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 12 Thursday, 8 & 10:30 p.m.

★Open House: University Lowbrow Astronomers. April 14 & 21. A chance to join local astronomy buffs for a look at the sky through instruments at the Peach Mountain Observatory. The observatory's huge, 24-inch McMath telescope is operational, but partici-

pants are nevertheless encouraged to bring their own telescopes. Visitors must turn off all electronic equipment (car radios, transmitters, phones, etc.) at the observatory entrance. Program canceled if sky is overcast at sunset or if the weather is extremely inclement. 8:15 p.m.-12:30 a.m. (as long as the sky remains clear). Peach Mountain Observatory, North Territorial Rd. (about 1/4 miles west of Hudson Mills Metropark), Dexter. Free. 332-9132.

2nd Saturday Swing Dance: Grand Traditions Vintage Dance Academy. Dancing to recorded jump blues, swing, and big band music. All welcome; no partner necessary. Preceded at 7:30 p.m. by lessons (\$5). 8:30-11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94). \$5 (dance with lesson, \$7). 213-0537.

Josh Kelley: The Blind Pig. Alternative pop-rock singer-songwriter from Georgia who's been compared to Ben Harper and John Mayer. Opening acts are Kate Voegelé, a pop-rock singer-songwriter from Ohio, and Alexa Wilkinson, a pop singer-songwriter from Utah. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. Ashley. Tickets \$14 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645-6666.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. Films TBA. \$8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, \$6.75; MTF members, \$6). 668-TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

15 SUNDAY

★"Pinckney Brunch Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Fast-paced 70-mile and moderate-paced 53-mile rides along Huron River Drive to Pinckney for brunch at the Lakes Grille. Also, at 10 a.m., a slow-paced 32-mile ride to the same destination leaves from the gazebo in downtown Dexter. 9 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 761-6253 (70-mile ride), 996-8079 (53-mile ride), 451-3210 (32-mile ride).

★"Honorary Paris-Roubaix Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Fast/moderate-paced 40-mile ride over pothole-ridden and dirt roads in honor of this Parisian race, held in the rainy month of April, that's known as one of the toughest in the world. Ride your old junker or cyclocross bike. Rain or shine. 9 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 424-9765.

★"Drums and 'Drumunity'": U-M Stearns Collection. Local drummer Lori Fithian discusses and demonstrates drums from around the world in the Stearns Collection of musical instruments. Followed by an all-ages drum circle (drums provided). 11-12:30 p.m., U-M Music School McIntosh Theater, 1100 Baitz Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 936-2891.

"22nd Dimensions in Light Festival": Lighthouse Center, Inc. The 2nd-largest metaphysical fair in Michigan features astrology, aura photography, body workers, channeling, crystals, health products, readers, vendors, and ear coning. Chances to try yoga, Pilates, t'ai chi, and drumming. Talks on gardening with the moon, Tibetan singing bowls, homeopathy, genetics and health, and healing. Traditional Lakota sweat lodge (5 p.m.). Live yoga chanting and kirtan music (5 p.m., lobby). Vegetarian food available. 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Washtenaw Community College, Morris J. Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Drive. \$5 admission. 663-2218.

"O-Meet": Southern Michigan Orienteering Club. See 1 Sunday. Noon-2 p.m., Mill Lake, Waterloo Recreation Area (left off Pierce Road north from I-94). \$5 (members, \$4; beginners, \$3). 662-1000.

★"Sharon Mills Rededication and Hike": Washtenaw Land Trust. All invited to join members in a hike around this new park on the River Raisin that features a beautiful multicolored stone house, a wooden mill, and a former winery, plus spots for fishing, canoeing, and picnicking. Also, a short rededication ceremony and refreshments. 1-3 p.m., Sharon Hills Nature Preserve, Sharon Hollow Road between Walker and Washburn (off Grass Lake Rd. from M-52 south of I-94). Free. 302-LAND.

★Bird Hills Neighborhood Coalition Series: Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation Division. Every Sunday, April 15-May 5. All invited to help city parks natural area preservation staff restore and maintain the natural areas in Bird Hills Park. Minors must be accompanied by an adult or obtain a release form in advance. 1-4 p.m., meet at the Bird Rd. entrance to Bird Hills Park. Free. 996-3266.

Sunday Cooking Sessions: Kitchen Port. April 15, 22, & 29. With local chefs and cooks. Today: Rita Martin prepares Irish scones and soda bread. Also this month: Blue Nile chef Brad Durr makes nori rolls (April 22) and chef Joseph Sak fixes paella (April 29). Coffee, nibbles, and recipes included. 1-2

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Yoga: Lighthouse
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Port. April 15,
ts. Today: Rita a bread. Also ur makes nori k fixes paella s included. 1-2

p.m., Kitchen Port, 283 Zeeb Rd. \$8. Preregistration recommended. 665-9188.

"Nintendo Wii Sports Tournament": Ann Arbor District Library. All invited to compete against other players in bowling, tennis, and baseball video games. 1-4 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-8301.

"Michigan Raptors": Leslie Science Center (Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation). Leslie Science Center staff display and discuss the Leslie Science Center's resident birds of prey, including 2 great horned owls, a barred owl, a peregrine falcon, and more. Also, visitors can tour the new raptor center, dissect owl pellets, and do a fun craft. 2-4 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. \$6 (family, \$25). Preregistration required. 997-1553.

"Exploring the Goodrich Preserve": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission. A WCPARC naturalist TBA discusses the preserve's plant and animal life and offers a peek into U-M's Horner Woods. 2-4 p.m., Goodrich Preserve, meet on Dixboro Rd. 1/2-mile north of Plymouth Rd. Free. 971-6337.

"Lycastes": Ann Arbor Orchid Society. Slide-illustrated talk by Illinois Orchid Society past president Leo Schordje. Also, sale, silent auction, raffle of orchids, and show-and-tell of members' plants. 2 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 647-7600, 663-0756.

"Clothing from 1850 to 1900": Pittsfield Township Historical Society. 19th- and 20th-century ballroom dancing expert Helen Welford discusses whether Scarlett O'Hara really would have worn her curtains, what we have Queen Victoria to thank for, and why 1851 and 1859 were landmark years in the clothing industry. Q&A. 2 p.m., Pittsfield Community Center, 701 W. Ellsworth. Free. 429-4517.

"Dixboro United Methodist Church": Washtenaw County Historical Society. Talk by Ilene Tyler, a former president of the Ann Arbor Historic District Commission. 2-4 p.m., DUMC, 5221 Church Rd. (off N. Dixboro Rd. just north of Plymouth Rd.). Free. 662-9092.

Rainbow Book Club. All invited to discuss *Affinity*, Sarah Waters's historical mystery about an upper-class Victorian woman drawn to an imprisoned spiritualist. 4:30-6:30 p.m., WRAP office, 325 Braun Ct. Free. 663-0036.

Enlightened Minds Book Club: Nicola's Books. All invited to discuss *The Secret*, Rhonda Byrne's self-improvement book that promises to reveal a long-concealed secret that eradicates disease, secures wealth and overcome obstacles. Also, signing. 7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

"Jessica: The Autobiography of an Infant": Ann Arbor District Library "Sunday Edition." Local therapist and social worker Jeffrey von Glahn discusses his book about his radical therapeutic approach that tracks his patient's psychology back to infancy. Signing. Copies of the book available for purchase. 2-3:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-4200.

Family Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange. All invited for an afternoon of contra and square dancing to live music, with callers John Freeman and David Park Williams and music by David West and Donna Baird. Also, "play-party games," popular 19th-century musical games without instrumental accompaniment. 2 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94). \$6 (\$12 per family). 769-1052.

Shape Note Singing: The Ark/Ann Arbor Sacred Harp. All invited to join an afternoon of shape note, or sacred harp, singing, a form of communal hymn singing that has its roots in colonial America. Songbooks available, but singers are encouraged to bring their own. 2-5 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free, but donations accepted for music scholarships. 747-9644, 761-1451.

Panel Discussion: Washington Street Gallery. Local book artists TBA discuss their work, currently on display in the gallery's exhibit of book art. 2 p.m., 120 E. Liberty. Free. 761-2287.

Chamber Music Group: U-M Residential College. Katri Ervamaa directs RC students in a varied program of chamber music TBA. 2 p.m., Residential College auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 647-4354.

"In the Heart of America": Blackbird Theater Productions. See 6 Friday, 2 p.m.

"Tommy": U-M Musical Theater Department. See 12 Thursday, 2 p.m.

"When the Lights Come On": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 5 Thursday, 2 p.m.

"Candida": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday, 2 p.m.

Indonesian Potluck: U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies. All invited to this monthly gathering

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CITY OF ANN ARBOR SIDEWALK REPAIR PROGRAM

A: Per City Code, Chapter 49, Section 4:58, all sidewalks within the City shall be kept and maintained in good repair by the owner of the adjacent land.

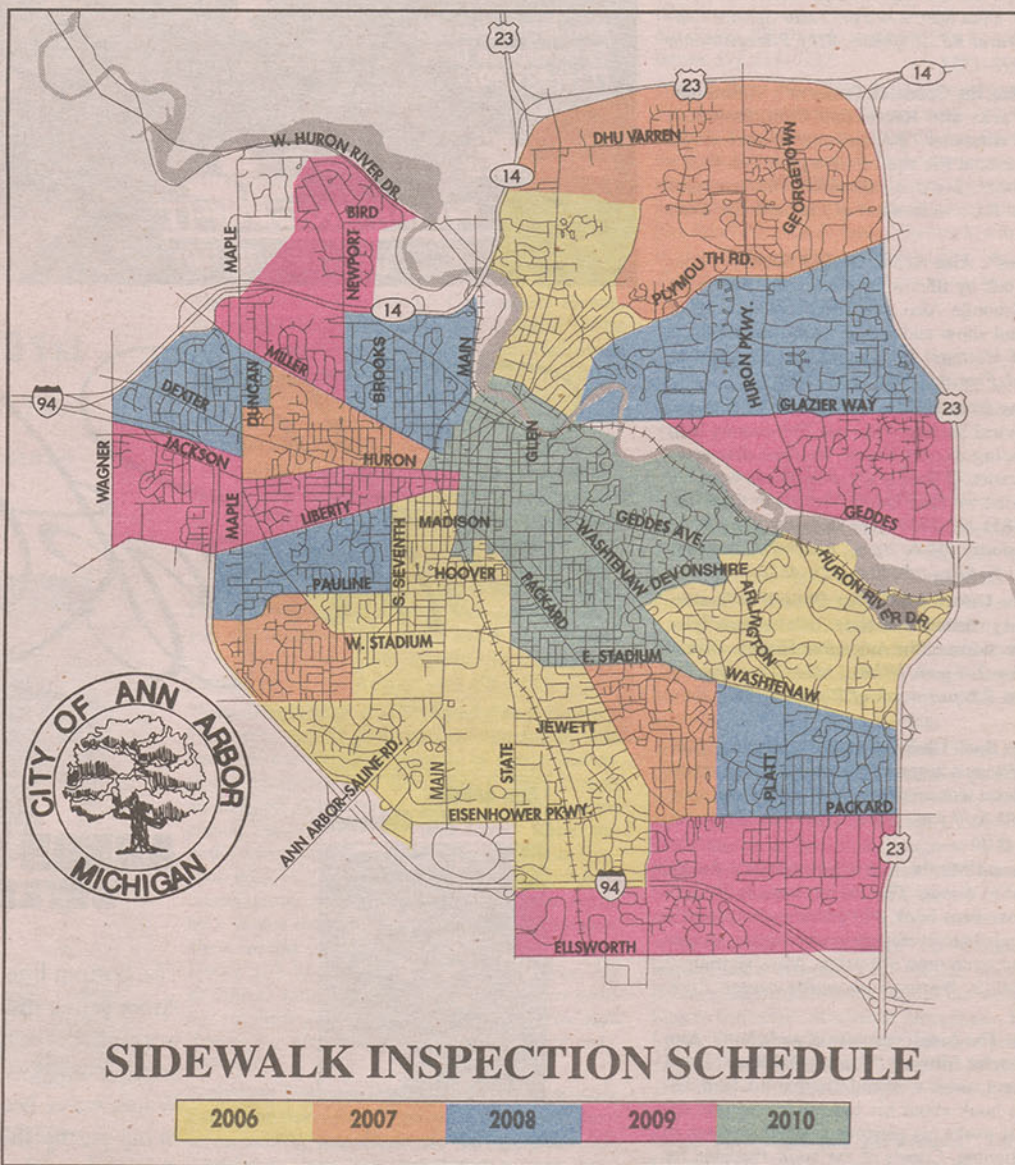
A: You simply talk with the City's Customer Service Center at (734) 994-2818. This call will trigger a request to the Technical Services Unit for a sidewalk inspection. If repairs are needed, the City will notify the property owner by letter of the specific requirements to bring the sidewalk into compliance.

A: Please call (734) 994-2818 to initiate an inspection by a staff person from forestry and/or the Technical Services Unit to see if a problematic root can be removed without endangering the stability and health of the tree. The property owner is still responsible for the sidewalk repair costs.

A: When contractor's perform work for the City there is additional costs for the contractor for Bonding, Insurance and the requirement to pay prevailing wages. Based on our Customer Service Survey we found the average cost for a 4" slab for homeowner's in 2005 was \$130. The City cost for a 4" slab in 2005 was at least \$170

A: The City will make the repairs and pass on all associated costs. In 2005, that would have been a minimum of \$170 per slab plus project costs, which were \$225 per address.

A: Based on our Customer Service Survey we have implemented a Contractor Pre-Qualification process. The contractors on the list will be instructed by the City on the procedures of sidewalk repair within the City of Ann Arbor. Contractors will also be rated on their performance by the City and the Customer Service Survey. The ratings will allow us to remove or add contractors based on City and owner experiences.



SIDEWALK REPAIR & REPLACEMENT PROCEDURES:

- ## THREE REASONS TO REPAIR YOUR PUBLIC SIDEWALK:

- More information is available on the City's website at: www.a2gov.org/sidewalk

discussions

SpiritSisters Shamanism and beyond

When I call for information, Anita, one of the founders of Spirit-Sisters Women's Circle, tells me why they started this monthly group that discusses spirituality, relationships, empowerment, metaphysics, and healing: "We just felt like it was a good idea and wanted to see where it went. It's nice because we can talk about things you might not ordinarily be able to talk about." She adds, "Some of the women are into shamanism, some into more metaphysical. Some are more pagan." Metaphysical, she explains, is a broad area that can cover psychic stuff or divination or channeling or crystals.

At the meeting, ten women sit around a six-sided table in the basement of a church. Actually, it's a church-synagogue, which is an interesting concept in itself. Many of the women have candles burning before them. In the center of the table is a lovely candleholder. Three women with long braided hair sit facing the flame. They remind me of me and my two sisters.

The women introduce themselves and catch up on what they've been doing. One recalls some advice she recently gave her daughter, "Smart women are impressive, but cookies conquer all." The next woman says she started on a Native American path thirty years ago, tried out everything else, and is now back to Native American—with a Christ base. "Mainly, it's all about Girl Power," she laughs.

Another woman left Jehovah's Witnesses and is on a quest for something spiritual. The next is looking for spiritual diversity. When she says this group isn't like the others, the older woman next to me raises her fist in the air and yells, "YEAH!" This startles me, not because she looks like my grandmother, but because she's so darn powerful. Sweet, I think. She should do that in mixed company.



Most of the women are about fifty years old and very empowered, if I may use that term. A regal woman with her hair in a bun asks if we know the new term being used for an older woman who has a relationship with a younger man. "A cougar," she smiles, knowingly.

After introductions, we call the four compass directions, Peruvian style, and then have quiet meditation. I especially like the faint sounds of a choir upstairs that sprinkle around us. We take turns pulling cards with uplifting messages: "Undergo your path with compassion and total trust," "Nourish those around you and be nourished," "The gift of patience is patience."

Someone passes a sheet that enumerates spirit guides in categories—joy guides, protectors, doctors/teachers, and so on—and a conversation ensues about whether or not we really need their help anymore. "We're suppose to be trusting our own abilities," says one, "and spending our time with positive thoughts, cocreating."

Is that what I've been doing? You know, I prayed for a house, and it came. Really. Then I prayed for a great job, and it came. Hmmm... I probably should start praying for a Jacuzzi.

SpiritSisters get together again at St. Clare's Episcopal Church / Temple Beth Emeth on Tuesday, April 17.

—Charmie Gholson

15 SUNDAY continued

of people interested in chatting about Indonesia. Bring an Indonesian dish to pass. 3-5 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-0352.

★**"Glamour Torte and Pink Perfection Peppermint Cake: Women, Creativity, and Convenience Foods in the 1950s": Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor.** Talk by Miami University of Ohio English professor Sherrie Inness. 4-6 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin Ave. Free. 662-8661.

★**Concert Band: U-M School of Music.** Rodney Dorsey conducts this music-student ensemble in a program highlighted by a premiere by music-student composer Eliza Brown. Also, Ticheli's *Postcard*, Faure's *Chant Funebre*, Hindemith's *Symphony in B-flat*, contemporary composer Jonathan Newman's *The Rivers of Bowery*, Bernstein's *Candide Suite*, and Sousa's "Nobles of the Mystic Shrine." 4 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0583.

Jerusalem String Quartet: University Musical Society. Founded 14 years ago when its members met in high school, this still youthful quartet is quickly gaining prominence on the international chamber music scene. Noted for playing well-worn classical standards with attentiveness, freshness, and vigor, the group tends to perform on the high end of the tempo range without losing control, generating an excitement that never degrades into haste. Program: Haydn's tragic Quartet in F Minor, Barber's powerful Quartet for Strings, and Tchaikovsky's Quartet no. 1, based on a folk song the composer heard a house painter whistling. 4 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Tickets \$20-\$40 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538.

★**Alumni Band: EMU Music Department.** This ensemble of EMU music grads is joined by 2 ensembles of current music students, the *Symphonic Band* and the *Wind Symphony*, for a program highlighted by a performance of the contemporary British composer Philip Sparke's *Manhattan*. Guest trumpet soloist is EMU grad Woody English, the official bugler of the U.S. Army Ceremonial Band. Also, works by Nixon, Ticheli, Whitacre, Hazo, and EMU music professor Scott Boerma. 4 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★**"Theology on Tap": St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Outreach Committee.** All invited to join an informal discussion of social, theological, and political issues. Tonight: U-M Students Acting Now for Darfur lead a discussion of "Darfur: What Can We Do?" Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by socializing. 7 p.m., Arbor Brewing, 116 E. Washington. Free. 213-5378.

Spring Concert: Ann Arbor Cantata Singers. Warren Puffer Jones conducts this polished semiprofessional local ensemble in a program highlighted by Eleanor Roosevelt, Libby Larson's dramatic cantata based on Roosevelt's life and words. Also, Christina Whitten's *Take Peace* and works by Amy Beach and other composers. 7 p.m., First Congregational Church, 608 E. William. Tickets \$10 (students & seniors, \$6) at the door only. 996-8867.

★**"An Inconvenient Truth": Climate Crisis Action Washtenaw.** Screening of Al Gore's 2006 double-Oscar-winning documentary about global warming. 7 p.m., Quest Martial Arts, 2111 Packard. Free. 332-1800.

Ubaka Hill: The Ark. This percussionist from Brooklyn, New York, plays the *djembe*, a West African drum, and other percussion instruments. Her energetic performances blend the rhythmic drumming traditions of Africa, Latin America, the

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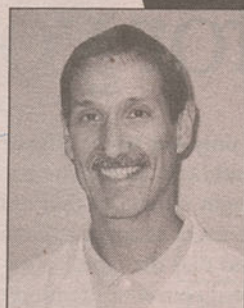
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15 SUNDAY continued

Caribbean, shamanism, and American jazz with poetry and song. 7:30 p.m., *The Ark*, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$17.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, and all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

Lucinda Williams: Live Nation. This acclaimed singer-songwriter blends traditional blues, country, Cajun, R&B, and rock 'n' roll forms with highly charged and at times desperately inventive ballad-style lyrics that take their inspiration as much from the southern Gothic fiction of Flannery O'Connor and Eudora Welty as from traditional song. But unlike many self-consciously literate singer-songwriters, she bases her singing style on an expressive repertoire of vocal tones, timbres, and other nonverbal devices. Though Williams has been around for more than 20 years, she did not gain wide popularity until the 1998 release of *Car Wheels on a Gravel Road*, a masterful collection of emotionally complex, luminously realized meditations on the past that provoked comparisons to Dylan's *Time Out of Mind*. Her latest CD, *West*, continues this meditative impulse in even more intimately personal directions while maintaining her extroverted musical adventurousness. 7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$35 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

Cabaret Studio Recital: U-M School of Music. Students of U-M music professor Joan Morris perform songs by Gershwin, Kurt Weill, Leiber & Stoller, Bolcom & Weinstein, and others. 8 p.m., Walgreen Drama Center Studio One, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764-0583.

Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra: EMU Music Department. Arie Lipsky directs the AASO in a program featuring 2 EMU music professors as guest soloists, French horn player Willard Zirk in Mozart's Horn Concerto no. 1 and pianist Joel Schoenhals in Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*. Also, John Harbison's *Remembering Gatsby* and Rachmaninoff's *Symphonic Dances*. 8 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. \$11-\$16 (youth & seniors, \$6) in advance and at the door. 487-2255.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. Films TBA. \$8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, \$6.75; MTF members, \$6). 668-TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

16 MONDAY

"Lunch and Learn": Women's City Club. April 16 & 25. Lunch and talks by a variety of speakers. Today: former National Gallery of Art curator Ed Hoffman discusses "Art from the 1850s to the 1940s." Also this month: local builder and greenway advocate Joe O'Neal on "What Is a Greenway?" (April 25). 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. \$17. Reservations required. 761-6691.

"Building Genetic Medicine: Breast Cancer, Technology, and the Comparative Politics of Health Care": National Poverty Center/U-M School of Public Policy. Talk by U-M science, technology, and public policy professor Shobita Parthasarathy. Reception follows. 4-5:30 p.m., 1120 Weill Hall, 735 S. State at Hill. Free. 615-5312, 764-3490.

"Religion, Democracy, and Nationhood: Muslims in Buddhist Thailand": U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies. Talk by Thammasat University (Bangkok) political science professor Chaiwat Satha-Anand. 4 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-0352.

Embroiderers' Guild of America. Stitchers of all abilities invited to work on their projects, socialize, and learn about guild activities. 6:45 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. Free to visitors (\$30 annual dues). 426-3903.

"Reading Food Labels": Wholistic Doctor. Local chiropractor Darren Schmidt discusses ways to read food labels. 7-8 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations recommended. 975-4500.

"When Disaster Strikes: Preparing for Tornadoes, Power Outages, and Other Emergencies": Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by American Red Cross members TBA. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4200.

Book Club: Ann Arbor Jaycees. All invited to join a discussion of *Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West*, Gregory Maguire's revisionist novel about the land and characters of Oz. 7 p.m., Arborland Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 646-9390.

"Stamps with World Peace Themes": Ann Arbor Stamp Club. Talk by club member Eric Lund. 7:30 p.m., Salvation Army, 100 Arbana (park & enter at the rear of the building). Free admission. 761-5859.

Margaret Davis: Ann Arbor Women Artists. Talk by this EMU painting professor known for luminous, poised still lifes that feature such elements as lusciously glowing sushi, sparkling waterfalls, and plump pomegranates. 7:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Art Center (enter through the back door). Free. 483-1897.

"The Oak Openings Region from the Ground Up: Diverse Geology Founding Incredible Biodiversity": Michigan Botanical Club. Toledo Area Wild Ones director Todd Crail discusses this natural area west of Toledo. 7:45 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 663-5667.

University Philharmonia Orchestra: U-M School of Music. Andrew George conducts this U-M music-student ensemble in the premieres of 2 works by grad student composers—David Wohl's *Helium* and Alex Temple's "This Changes Everything!"—and Andre Jolivet's Concerto for Flute and String Orchestra, with flutist Sarah Frisof, the 2007 Concerto Competition winner. Also, the March from Hindemith's *Symphonic Metamorphosis* and Bernstein's *On the Town: Three Dance Episodes*. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0583.

Orpheus Singers: U-M School of Music. Several grad students take turns conducting this U-M music-student choir, accompanied by pianist John Boonenberg. Program: Mozart's *Vesperae de Dominica*, Poulenc's *Un Soir de Neige*, Gerald Finzi's "Haste on, my joys!" and "I praise the tender flower," and Byrd's "Haec dies," "Miserere mei," and "Ave verum corpus." 8 p.m., U-M Music School Moore Hall, 1100 Baitis (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0583.

"Mad about Chamber Music": Kerrytown Concert House. See 2 Monday. Today: Residential College students perform chamber music by Schubert, Mozart, Shostakovich, Beethoven, and others. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 769-2999.

Maia Sharp: The Ark. Young country-pop singer-songwriter whose work has provoked comparisons to the likes of Joni Mitchell, Laura Nyro, and Karla Bonoff. She's best known through covers of her songs by everyone from the Dixie Chicks to Trisha Yearwood, but her recent CDs, *Upstanding Citizen* and the new limited-edition release *Eve & the Red Delicious*, showcase her own richly expressive, seductively soulful voice. "Maia is making some of the most innovative and soulful music around with songs that are head and shoulders above the rest. She has become one of my favorite artists," says Bonnie Raitt. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$12.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

FILMS

Ann Arbor District Library. "Playing for Time" (Daniel Mann, 1980). Screening of this rarely seen Emmy-winning TV movie, Arthur Miller's own adaptation of his play (see 1 Sunday) about a women's orchestra in Auschwitz. Vanessa Redgrave, Jane Alexander. FREE. 327-4560. AADL multipurpose room (343 S. Fifth Ave. at William), 6-8:30 p.m. **Michigan Theater Foundation. "Color Me Kubrick"** (Brian Cook, 2005). Today only: Campy comedy about Alan Conway, the con man who impersonated Stanley Kubrick in the 1990s. \$8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, \$6.75; MTF members, \$6). 668-TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA. **U-M Max Kade Film Screenings. "Kurz und Schmerzlos"** (Fatih Akin, 1998). Three friends in Hamburg—a Greek, a Serb, and a Turk—are caught up in a life of crime. German, subtitles. Free. 764-5018. Max Kade House (Baitis II, 1440 Hubbard, North Campus), 7-10 p.m. **Melange. "Monday Night Movie & Dinner."** See 2 Monday. Tonight: *Borat* (Larry Charles, 2006), mockumentary about a fictitious Kazakh journalist who travels around the U.S. recording people's reactions to his always outrageous, usually pugnaciously offensive antics. Sacha Baron Cohen. Melange, 6:30 p.m.

17 TUESDAY

"Gallup Gatherings": Ann Arbor Senior Center. April 17 & 24. All seniors age 55 & older invited for socializing, nature walks, and other activities. Coffee & baked goods provided. 10-11:30 a.m., Gallup Park canoe livery (west side of Huron Pkwy.). \$5. 662-9319.

"Survey Methods in Macroeconomics": U-M College of Literature, Science, & the Arts Distinguished Senior Faculty Lecture. Lecture by U-M economics professor Matthew Shapiro. Reception follows. 4:10 p.m., Alumni Center Founders Room, 200 Fletcher St. Free. 998-6251.

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★"Drumunity!" Lori Fithian, a local drummer and drum teacher, leads a drum circle. Instruments provided, or bring your own. Kids welcome. Preceded at 6:45 p.m. by a brief drum lesson. 7-9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore, 114 S. Main. Free. 426-7818.

★"Sephardic Jewish Dinner": Zingerman's Roadhouse. Zingerman's co-owner Ari Weinberg and local jazz singer Surry Scheerer host a dinner featuring recipes showcasing American dishes whose heritage can be traced back to Spanish and Mediterranean influences on Jewish cuisine, including Catalan lamb sausages, tuna burgers with harissa, Turkish stuffed beet leaves, stuffed sardines, and greens. Scheerer also gives a talk about Sephardic Jewish cooking and about her own family's culinary history. 7 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. \$39 (\$58 includes wine). Reservations required. 663-FOOD.

★"The Bone Stops Here: Osteopenia and Osteoporosis": Whole Foods Market. Talk by local nutritionist Judy Stone. 7-8:30 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations recommended. 975-4500.

★"The 3 Ls: Language, Learning, and Life Lessons": Ann Arbor University Women. Talk by local children's book author Shutta Crum. 7-9:30 p.m., Women's City Club auditorium, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 662-3279.

SpiritSisters Women's Circle. See review, p. 91. All women invited to discuss spirituality, relationships, empowerment, metaphysics, and healing. Short meditation session. Bring divination tools, if you like. 7 p.m., Temple Beth Emeth/St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 2309 Packard. \$3. 741-0478.

★The Yellow Room Gang: Ann Arbor District Library. In-the-round performances by 5 members of this group of 8 award-winning veteran Michigan songwriters who get together regularly to share their new work. Members are Jim Bizer, Annie Capps, Jan Krist, Matt Watroba, and David Tamulevich of the local duo Mustard's Retreat. The Yellow Room Gang recently released an eponymous compilation CD featuring brand-new songs by each artist. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-8301.

★Writers Reading at Sweetwaters. Local poet (and Ann Arbor Poetry Slam organizer) Larry Francis reads from his new collection and from the work of poets he admires. Followed by open-mike readings for poets and other creative writers. 7-9 p.m., Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea, 123 W. Washington. Free. 369-2798.

★Sherman Alexie: Shaman Drum Bookshop. This critically acclaimed fiction writer and poet, a member of the Coeur d'Alene tribe in Washington State, reads from *Flight*, his first new novel in 10 years. It's the story, at once wrenching and deeply humorous, of a troubled foster teenager—a boy who is not a "legal" Indian because he was never claimed by his father—who becomes a time-traveler after he is killed while robbing a bank. During his journey back through the violence in American history, he finds himself first a 70s FBI agent helping assassinate Indian activists, then an Indian child at Little Big Horn, a 19th-century Indian tracker, an airplane pilot instructor, and finally his own father. "A funny, irreverent, sardonic but sentimental, rebellious voice set beside his elder contemporaries, Alexie is the bad boy among them, mocking, self-mocking, unpredictable, unassimilable, reminding us of the young Philip Roth," says Joyce Carol Oates. Signing. 7 p.m., The Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington. Free. 662-7407.

★"Landscaping with Native Plants": Huron Valley Sierra Club. Talk by local master gardener and prairie enthusiast Aunita Erskine. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 615-0516.

★"Dawn Farm Education Series": Dawn Farm. April 17 & 24. Former Dawn Farm detox team leader Ed Conlin discusses "Addiction and Spirituality." Also this month: Conlin on "Toxic Relationships in and out of Addiction" (April 24). Refreshments, literature. 7:30-9 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off Huron River Dr.). Free. 973-7892.

★Collegium Musicum: EMU Music Department. Pamela Ruiter-Feenstra directs this music-student chamber choir and orchestra in a program of cantatas and chamber works by German Baroque composer Dietrich Buxtehude. Also, 2 Mozart works and a Sweelinck organ prelude. 7:30 p.m., Holy Trinity Chapel, 511 W. Forest, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★University Symphony Orchestra: U-M School of Music. Kenneth Kiesler conducts this U-M music-student ensemble in a performance of book 1 of Messiaen's *Poemes pour Mi* featuring soprano Mary Bonhag, a 2007 Concerto Competition winner. Also, Mahler's Symphony no. 7. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0583.

★Percussion and African Ensembles: EMU Music Department. John Dorsey directs these 2 EMU



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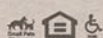
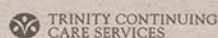
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17 TUESDAY continued

music-student ensembles in a program showcasing standard and multicultural configurations of percussion instruments and repertoire. 8 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

Deanna Bogart Band: The Ark. Blues band led by Bogart, a barrelhouse pianist (and occasional saxophonist) whose repertoire ranges from 30s-style boogie-woogie and New Orleans R&B to swing and rock 'n' roll, including many original songs. "She plays a stellar boogie-woogie piano and a pretty mean sax, flourishes her highly finessed songs (in country, gospel, pop, and jazz instrumental veins) about the here and hereafter, and sings them with equal power and conviction," says veteran *Philadelphia Inquirer* critic Jonathan Takiff in his review of Bogart's new Blind Pig CD, *Real Time*. "Even Bonnie Raitt diehards would be impressed." 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$15 (members, free) in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Jonestown: The Life and Death of People's Temple" (Stanley Nelson, 2006). *Today only.* Documentary about Jim Jones, the charismatic cult leader whose followers committed mass suicide in 1978. \$8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, \$6.75; MTF members, \$6). 668-TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

18 WEDNESDAY

"The Morning Edition": Ann Arbor Area Chamber of Commerce. This popular monthly program features a buffet breakfast and a series of 5-minute updates from local business and community leaders. Hosted by Michigan Theater executive director Russ Collins. Speakers: Ypsilanti Area Chamber of Commerce former president Keith Peters, Quack! Media CEO Al McWilliam, Menlo Innovations representative Richard Sheridan, EMU College of Business dean David Mielke, and Citizens Research Council of Michigan president Earl Ryan. Video replays posted at annarborchamber.org. 7-8:45 a.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. \$25 (members, \$15). Preregistration requested. 214-0104.

Society for Musical Arts. Performances by winners of the club's annual Youth Music Competition. Followed by a meet-the-artist lunch (\$12). 10:30 a.m., Ann Arbor Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. \$12 (accompanying friend, \$10; students, \$5). Reservations requested. 662-3279.

"Filling Fires": U-M Turner Geriatrics Center. City fire inspector Gianna Bommarito discusses the causes of kitchen fires and household accidents and how to prevent them. Noon-1:30 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. Preregistration required. 998-9353.

"Be Good to Your Whole Body: Allergies": Whole Foods Market. Whole Foods staff member Heather Brumwell discusses allergies and their effective natural remedies. 12:30-1:30 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations recommended. 975-4500.

Book Club: Ann Arbor Senior Center. All seniors age 50 & older invited to join Lucia Skoman to discuss a book TBA. 1-3 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769-5911.

U-M Baseball vs. EMU. 3 p.m., Ray Fisher Stadium. \$5 (youths age 12 & under, \$3; U-M students, free). 764-0247.

Susan Stenberg: U-M Hopwood Awards Ceremony. Talk by this nationally renowned NPR broadcast journalist, whom novelist E.L. Doctorow called "the closest thing to an enlightened humanist on the radio." Stenberg's talk highlights the annual ceremony recognizing the winners of the prestigious U-M contest for graduate and undergraduate poetry, fiction, and nonfiction writing. 3:30 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 764-6296.

"After School Is Cool: African Cave Drawings": Ann Arbor District Library. Craft activity for kids age 9 & up. 4-5 p.m., AADL youth story corner, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-8301.

"Alternative Energy Solutions": U-M Exhibit Museum Science Cafe. All invited to join a discussion led by U-M geological sciences professor Henry Pollack. Preceded at 5:30 p.m. by free hors d'oeuvres. In conjunction with the new Exhibit Museum exhibition *Climate Change: Local Impacts, Global Responsibility*. 6-7:30 p.m., Arbor Brewing Company, 114 E. Washington. Free. 764-0478.

"Grandparents, Kids, and Pets: Share Your Stories and Photos": Ann Arbor District Library. Grandparents and their grandkids of all ages invited to share photos, stories, and other memorabilia of any pet they have ever owned. 6:30-7:30 p.m., AADL

Mallets Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4200.

"Balancing Your Hormones: Balancing Your Life": Whole Foods Market. Talk by local acupuncturist Gary Merel. 7-9 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations requested. 975-4500.

"Eve: The Restaurant Cookbook": Eve Restaurant. Informal demonstrations of some toothsome dishes, ranging from simple to labor intensive, from the restaurant's new cookbook. Also, a tasting of complementary wines. 7 p.m., Eve, Kerrytown. \$40. Preregistration required. 222-0711.

"Oils": Zingerman's Delicatessen. Zingerman's staff discuss and offer samples of upstart olive oils from California, Argentina, and New Zealand to compare with Old World powerhouses from France, Italy, and Spain. 7-9 p.m., Zingerman's Next Door (upstairs), 422 Detroit St. \$20. Space limited; reservations required. 663-3354.

"The Girl's Guide to Absolutely Everything": Arborland Borders. Former Oxygen Media senior producer Melissa Kirsch discusses her common-sense primer for women in their 20s and 30s that gives helpful tips on everything from modern home economics to "non-goal-oriented sex." Also, signing. 7 p.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948.

Meeta Banerjee & John Churchville: Neutral Zone Weapons of Musical Diversity Series. Classical Indian music by the duo of sitarist Banerjee and tabla player Churchville, 2 local musicians instrumental in forming the U-M Saadhanai Indian music organization. 7 p.m., Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington St. Free. 214-9995.

"Drawing Fun": Ann Arbor District Library. Best-selling Michigan comic artist Mark Crilley, author of the acclaimed *Akiko* series of comic books, discusses his career and his writing and drawing techniques and demonstrates his character drawings. He closes the show with his popular "One Minute Drawing," in which he completes an illustration in 60 seconds with the audience counting down the time together. 7-7:45 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, lower level, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-8301.

Israeli Dancing: Jewish Community Center. Tom Starks leads an evening of Israeli dancing. Instruction provided. 7-9 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$5. 971-0990.

Jazz Combo: EMU Music Department. Mark Pappas conducts music-student combos. 7 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

"Buhr Park Wet Meadows": Pittsfield Union Grange. Talk by Wild Ones native landscaping group member Jeannine Palms. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a potluck (bring a dish to pass; table service provided). 7:15 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94). Free. 769-1052.

Channeled Spiritual Discussion Group: Deep Spring Center. All invited to share their spiritual and metaphysical questions with others with similar interests. The evening is led by Aaron, a "being of light" channeled by Barbara Brodsky. Aaron offers a talk on our relationship to others and to the earth. Also, socializing. 7:30 p.m., 3003 Washtenaw, suite 2 (entry on Glenwood, next to Arby's). Free, but donations are accepted. 477-5848.

A. Alfred Taubman: Liberty Borders. This "father of the shopping mall" discusses *Threshold Resistance*, his business advice book. Signing. 7 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668-7652.

"The Wonderful World of Wildflowers": Washtenaw Audubon Society. Slide-illustrated talk by former Michigan Audubon Society president Roger Sutherland. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 677-3275.

Lee Roy Parnell: The Ark. This veteran Austin-based singer-songwriter and slide guitarist performs a distinctive, soulful blend of roots-rock, honky-tonk, and Texas swing. The songs on his acclaimed 2005 CD *Tell the Truth* and the recent *Back to the Well* run the gamut from Delta blues and roadhouse rock to blue-eyed soul and full-blown gospel. Parnell performs with his band. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$17.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

"When the Lights Come On": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 4 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Wondrous Oblivion" (Paul Morrison, 2003). *Today only.* Biting, incisive portrait of a 1960s Jamaican family that moves into a London neighborhood. \$8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, \$6.75; MTF members,

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Eliza Gilkyson Spanning the centuries

Eliza Gilkyson sings her songs in a wise alto that I like very much. I love that she's such a literate and subtle writer. I love that she's passionate without being didactic or moralizing. I love the sly sexiness of her love songs and how she makes folk music seem so startlingly new. But most of all, I love that Eliza Gilkyson is a grandmother. That, my friends, rocks my little world.

Actually, it's no surprise that I feel an affinity with this Texas-based artist. Her dad, the late songwriter Terry Gilkyson, penned "Greenfields," the folk classic that made me feel very strange inside when I was a wee lass. Sad. Mysterious. Otherworldly. That song actually kind of messed me up. Growing up in Los Angeles, Eliza began singing and playing early and, as a teen, recorded demos for her father. "I got into [music] for all the wrong reasons, more as a survival tool than anything else, but it proved to serve me more than I dared to imagine," Gilkyson writes on her website.

At the end of the 1960s she moved to New Mexico with like-minded souls, eventually raising a family, and all the while writing, singing, and developing a loyal fan base in the Southwest. After a period in Europe working with Swiss composer and harpist Andreas Vollenweider, she returned to the United States and embarked on the career

that today has her touring the world and releasing fine records.

Friends had been telling me about Gilkyson for years, but our paths had never crossed until last summer at the Bliss Music Festival, when she took the stage on a beautiful evening and played a powerful, fascinating set. So I did what was expected of me and bought her latest CD, the stellar *Paradise Hotel*. It's terrific.

Starting from the soaring chorus of the opening song, "Borderline," Gilkyson journeys through themes, places, even across centuries. The showstopper here is clearly "Man of God," a fierce exhortation of our current president and the "faith"-fueled minions that prop him up, move his arms and legs around, and "wait for the Rapture like it's Disneyland." It's also just a great song: compelling, solid, frightening.

But my favorite on this album is "Jedidiah 1777," its lyrics pulled from actual letters penned by one of Gilkyson's ancestors, a soldier during the Revolutionary War. Cold and lonely in "this necessary war," he writes home, politely asks for someone to send him cloth for a new coat, dreams of home, prays for the safety of his family, inquires after "a certain Miss Moore." It's a sad, insistent song. Pump organ, ocarina, and pennywhistle—and the striking unsonglike language—make it sound ancient.

Eliza Gilkyson is at the Ark on a double bill with Tom Russell on Thursday, April 19.

—Whit Hill

\$6). 668-TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA. **M-Flicks. "Knocked Up"** (Judd Apatow, 2006). Sex comedy, from the director of *The 40-Year-Old Virgin*, about an unexpected pregnancy resulting from one drunken night shared by a 20-something dude and an older woman. FREE. 763-1107. Natural Sciences auditorium (830 North University), 8 p.m.

19 THURSDAY

***"6th Annual Earth Day Celebration": Washtenaw Community College.** A chance to peruse displays by, pick up literature from, and chat with reps from 30 local and national environmental groups, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the AATA, the Sierra Club, and others. Display of hybrid cars by local dealers. 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Student Center Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 973-3519.

***"Introduction to Computers": Ann Arbor District Library.** April 19 & 20. Two-part hands-on introduction to computers, with an emphasis on basic skills. Note: This program is also offered at the West (April 23 & 27, 1 p.m.), Northeast (April 24 & May

1, 7 p.m.), and Pittsfield (April 25 & May 2, 7 p.m.) branches. 10 a.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free (AADL noncardholders, \$10). Preregistration required. 327-8367.

***"What the Harpsichord Can Tell Us about Baroque Music on the Piano": Ann Arbor Area Piano Teachers Guild.** Lecture-demonstration by U-M harpsichord professor Edward Parmentier. 10 a.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 994-9198.

Annual Lunch: Washtenaw United Way. Lunch and an inspirational talk by Pennsylvanian motivational speaker Nelson Lauver. 11:30 a.m., 610 Hilton Blvd. (Briarwood Circle). \$25. Preregistration required by April 4. 971-8200.

Ceci Connolly: Margaret Waterman Alumnae Town Hall Celebrity Lecture Series. Talk by this national staff writer for the *Washington Post*, who traveled with Howard Dean and John Kerry in 2004, was the lead reporter covering vice-president Al Gore, and has reported on issues ranging from the tobacco industry to Medicare. 11:30 a.m., Michigan

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19 THURSDAY continued

League Ballroom. Tickets \$40 in advance only. 913-0958.

★**"My Ancestors in Colonial America": Daughters of the American Revolution.** Talk by DAR member Sally Kennedy. 1 p.m., Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 975-1976.

★**"A Glimpse of Europe": International Neighbors.** A sampling of different European cultures, including art, artifacts, costumes, music, and food. All area women invited. International Neighbors is a 48-year-old group of local women organized to welcome women from other countries during their stays in Ann Arbor. Nursery care provided for preschoolers; transportation can be arranged. Refreshments; attendees may bring a snack from their tradition to share. 1-2:30 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 1500 Scio Church Rd. Free. 429-7445.

★**"Seeing Past History as Usual: Theses for a Philosophy of Visual History": U-M Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies.** Talk by University of Southern California history professor Vanessa Schwartz. 4 p.m., 1014 Tisch Hall, 435 S. State. Free. 764-6305.

★**"Introduction to Cheese": Morgan and York.** April 19, 26, & May 3. Local *maitre de fromage* Simone Jenkins discusses all of the world's most important cheeses and offers taste samples. 6:30-8:30 p.m., Morgan & York, 1928 Packard. \$89. Preregistration required. 662-0798.

★**Ann Arbor Society for Origami.** All invited (children & adults) to learn about and try their hand at origami, the Japanese art of paper folding. 7-9:30 p.m., Great Oaks Cohousing Common House, 500 Little Lake Dr. (off Parkland from Jackson between Wagner & Zeeb). Free. 975-4669.

★**"Cancer Choices."** April 19 & 26 (different locations). Talk by local holistic health care practitioner Malcolm Sickels. 7 p.m., Whole Foods Market (Apr. 19), 3135 Washtenaw, & Touchstone Cohousing meeting room (Apr. 26), 560 Little Lake Dr. (off Parkland from Jackson between Wagner & Zeeb). Free. Reservations requested. 975-4500 (Apr. 19), 332-9936 (Apr. 26).

★**"Estate Planning": Ann Arbor Community Center.** Talk by local attorney Frederick McDonald. 7 p.m., Ann Arbor Community Center, 625 N. Main St. Free. 662-1099.

★**Laura Lippman: Nicola's Books.** This award-winning mystery writer from Baltimore discusses *What the Dead Know*, her thriller about a woman involved in a car accident who claims to be one of 2 girls gone missing years ago. Also, signing. 7 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

★**Bruce Olds: Liberty Borders.** This novelist and biographer discusses *The Moments Lost: A Midwest Pilgrim's Progress*, his historical novel about a Chicago reporter sent to cover the 1913 copper mine strike in the UP, where he encounters Wobblay leaders Big Bill Haywood and Mother Jones—and a fetching activist who catches his eye. Also, signing. 7 p.m., Borders, 612 Liberty. Free. 668-7652.

★**Joan Hess and Dorothy Cannell: Ann Arbor District Library.** These 2 mystery writers discuss the craft of mystery writing and introduce their new books. Hess is an American Mystery Award winner from Fayetteville, Arkansas, whose new book *Damsels in Distress* features a bookseller and mother of a perpetually petulant teen who investigates the murder of one of the organizers of a local Renaissance fair. Cannell is a British-born Maine resident whose *Withering Heights* is the 12th in her series featuring the detective work of Ellie Haskell, whom *Booklist* describes as "part Miss Marple, part modern British mum." Signing; books available for purchase. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4560.

★**Clarinet Recital: EMU Music Department.** Kimberly Cole Luevano directs EMU music students in solo and ensemble clarinet performances. 7 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★**"Grease": Young People's Theater.** April 19-22. Ron Baumanis directs local young actors in Jim Jacob and Warren Casey's popular pop-rock musical about the rivalries and adventures of a group of urban high school students in the 1950s. 7 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater, Michigan League. Tickets \$10 (seniors & children, \$7). 222-4006.

★**"Sufi Healing, Meditations, & Whirling": Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers.** A program of rumi music, silent meditation, and open whirling. 7:30 p.m., Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers, 2007 S. State. Free. Preregistration requested. 945-8602.

★**"Breeding Bird Survey Volunteer Information Session": Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation Division.** Information and sign-up session for anyone

interested in helping the city survey its population of resident birds. City ornithologist Dea Armstrong reports on the 2006 survey highlights. 7:30-9 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Free. Preregistration required for volunteers by Apr. 5. 996-3266.

★**"Harvesting the Marshlands in the Pre-Columbian Valley of Mexico: Results of an Off-Site Survey in 2003": Michigan Archaeological Society.** Talk by U-M archaeology professor Jeff Parsons. 7:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum Paleontology Classroom, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 995-8806.

★**"Life Journeys and Stories of Healing": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room Salon.** Talk by U-M psychology and religion professor emeritus Richard Mann, a member of the local Siddha Yoga community and a well-known antiwar and antiracism activist. Followed by discussion. 7:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757, 665-9160.

★**"The Fantasticks": Concordia University.** April 19-22. Laura Bird directs Concordia students in Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt's musical comedy about young lovers whose disillusionment with each other leads to a deeper love. The show's memorable songs include "Try to Remember," "Never Say No," "Soon It's Gonna Rain," and "Plant a Radish." 7:30 p.m., Concordia Kreft Center Black Box Theater, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Tickets \$14 in advance and at the door. 995-7537.

★**"La Tragedie de Carmen": U-M Opera Theater Department.** April 19 & 20. Joshua Major directs U-M music students in Peter Brook's stripped-down 80-minute adaptation of the popular Bizet opera, a melodrama about a hot-blooded femme fatale who ruins a weak-willed soldier. Brook's raw, theatrical adaptation retains the essence of the original while heightening its passionate intensity. Sung in French. 7:30 p.m., Walgreen Drama Center Studio One, 1226 Murfin. Free. 764-2538.

★**Netherlands Bach Society: University Musical Society.** Jos van Veldhoven conducts this renowned ensemble, founded in 1922, of specialists in the performance practices of the 17th- and 18th-century repertoire. For its UMS debut tonight it performs Bach's revered Mass in B Minor, a work known for the sublime purity of its vocal solos and for overwhelmingly contrapuntal choral writing that makes it extremely difficult to perform. A *New York Times* critic calls the group "lithe and lilting but also muscular, imaginative, and spontaneous." 8 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 2250 E. Stadium Blvd. Tickets \$35-\$45 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538.

★**Tom Russell and Eliza Gilkyson: The Ark.** Double bill of top-notch veteran Texas singer-songwriters, both L.A. transplants. Russell's folk-based songs, usually set in a noir version of the American West, explore and celebrate the spiritual struggles of ordinary people with an often revelatory acuity and warmth. He is best known for 2 song cycle CDs, *The Rose of San Joaquin* and *The Man from God Knows Where*, a widely acclaimed exploration of the experiences of his ancestors' move to America in the early 19th century that deftly incorporates Irish and Norwegian musical elements. His latest CD, *Hotwalker: Charles Bukowski and a Ballad for Gone America*, is a portrait of the outsider cultural voices of the 60s that blends original songs, narration, and the actual voices of everyone from circus midgets to Jack Kerouac and Charles Bukowski to Lenny Bruce and Dave Van Ronk. Gilkyson (see review, p. 95) is an Austin-based musician whose introspective songs blend arresting lyrics with catchy melodies. "Gilkyson doesn't pull any punches. She graces the music with her lush and passionate voice," says the *New York Times* in its review of her 2005 CD *Paradise Hotel*. "A dark and lonely sound, hope and satisfaction, and edgy lyrics with piercing imagery round out the whole." 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$20 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

★**"Abandoned, Cursed, and Tortured Love": EMU Music Department Opera Workshop.** Kathleen Segar directs EMU opera students in scenes from Strauss's *Die Fledermaus*, Verdi's *Rigoletto*, Puccini's *Madame Butterfly*, Gilbert & Sullivan's *Pirates of Penzance*, and other operas. 8 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★**"Cactus Flower": Ann Arbor Civic Theater.** April 19-22. Cassie Mann directs local actors in Abe Burrows's comedy about a bachelor dentist who invents a wife and family in order to evade commitment to his girlfriend—who then complicates things when she asks to meet them. The cast includes Heather Wing, Nathaniel Fremuth, Kathleen Beardmore, Anne Bauman, Larry Rusinsky, and David Babcock. 8 p.m., Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr.

Tickets \$971-2228.
★**"When the Water Comes Jackie Fly 19-21.** The International and coming national h on Conan appeared in Mary, Ki opening a show is a (below) & \$12 (F (Thurs.) & door. 996- FILMS
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Tickets \$10 & \$15 in advance and at the door. 971-2228.

"When the Lights Come On": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 5 Thursday, 8 p.m.
Jackie Flynn: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. April 19-21. The winner of the prestigious San Francisco International Comedy Competition, Flynn is an up-and-coming young comic known for sarcastic observational humor with a slight edge. A frequent guest on Conan O'Brien and other TV shows, he also appeared in the hit films *There's Something About Mary*, *Kingpin*, and *Stuck on You*. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Friday early show is a nonsmoking show. 8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. \$9 (Thurs.) & \$12 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$11 (Thurs.) & \$14 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "God Grew Tired of Us" (Christopher Quinn, 2006). Today only. Moving documentary about a group of Sudan's "Lost Boys" who emigrate to a new life in America. \$8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, \$6.75; MTF members, \$6). 668-TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

20 FRIDAY

***Agility Trials: Ann Arbor Dog Training Club.** April 20-22. Local dogs zip through a tricky obstacle course that includes tires, tunnels, a balance beam, jumps, an A-frame, and a slalom course of poles. Spectators are welcome—it's tremendously fun to watch the dogs enjoying the race. Rain or shine. 9 a.m.-afternoon time TBA (Apr. 20), 7 a.m.-afternoon time TBA (Apr. 21 & 22), Ann Arbor Dog Training Club, 1575 E. North Territorial Rd. (1½ miles east of US-23). Free. 995-2801.

"The Dirty Dozen: Assumptions That Defeat 'Good Enough' Parenting": Washtenaw Area Council for Children. Area social worker Phillip Hamberg gives 2 talks (9 a.m. & 11 a.m.) on myths about parenting. 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center auditorium, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off E. Huron River Dr. at Clark Rd.). \$40 by April 13, \$45 (students, \$10) at the door. 434-4215.

***"Insider NY": Heavenly Metal.** April 20 & 21. Show of samples of this line of New York photographer Sigal de Mayo's leather bags and purses hand-printed with her photographs of New York street scenes. The Friday night session is a cocktail party. 5-8 p.m. (Apr. 20) & 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (Apr. 21), Heavenly Metal (inside Vicki's Wash & Wear Haircuts), 207 E. Ann. Free. 663-4247.

Family Shabbat Dinner: Jewish Community Center Early Childhood Center. Kids age 5 & under invited with their families for dinner, with a program presented by ECC kids and a sing-along. 6-7:30 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$10 (kids age 2 & older, \$5). Reservations required. 971-0990.

Parents' Night Out: Ann Arbor YMCA. Kids ages 2-10 can enjoy dinner, a dip in the pool (age 5 & older only), and games and sports. 6:15-10 p.m., YMCA, 400 W. Washington. \$20 (members) \$30 (nonmembers). Preregistration required. 996-9622.

U-M Baseball vs. Ohio State. April 20 & 22 (single games) and April 21 (doubleheader). 6:30 p.m. (Apr. 20), 4 p.m. (Apr. 21), & 1 p.m. (Apr. 22), Ray Fisher Stadium. \$5 (youths age 12 & under, \$3; U-M students, free). 764-0247.

***Spring Storytelling Festival: Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild.** April 20-22. Stories by local tellers. Tonight: "Family Fun Night." Jeff Doyle, Elizabeth James, Darryl Mickens, and Judy Schmidt tell stories for adults & kids age 7 & up. 6:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 971-5763, 769-6982.

***"Shanghai Remembered: Stories of Jews Who Escaped to Shanghai from Nazi Europe": Ann Arbor District Library.** Detroit-area freelance journalist Berl Falbaum, who escaped Berlin with his parents to Shanghai in 1939, discusses his experience and those of others collected in this book of memoirs he compiled and edited. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4560.

***Jane Cleland: Arborland Borders.** This mystery writer discusses *Deadly Appraisal*, her new cozy about an antiques dealer who investigates a murder at a gala fund-raiser she helped to organize. Also, signing. 7 p.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948.

Afrobeat Dance Party: Neutral Zone. Double bill. NOMO is a local 9-piece ensemble that plays a mix of Afrobeat with Sun Ra- and Coltrane-influenced jazz. The band recently released its acclaimed Ubiquity Records debut, *New Tones*. **Odu Afrobeat Orchestra**, a 15-piece ensemble that features musicians from Nigeria and Ghana as well as Detroit, plays a toe-tapping horn- and percussion-heavy blend of jazz

and Afrobeat. Emceed by Detroit DJ Munk. 7-11 p.m., Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington St. \$10. 214-9995.

Steppin' in It: Saline Fiddlers ReStrung Hometown Concert. Lansing string band that plays everything from bluegrass, country-folk, and country blues to Cajun, western swing, and calypso. Opening act is the Fiddlers ReStrung, an ensemble of Saline High School fiddlers that performs American folk, bluegrass, and Celtic music. 7 p.m., Saline Middle School auditorium, 7190 N. Maple Rd., Saline. Tickets \$15 (seniors, \$10) in advance and at the door. 429-7210.

"Grease": Young People's Theater. See 19 Thursday, 7 p.m.

***"Kirtan": Ann Arbor Kirtan.** All invited to join a group performance of this traditional Sikh liturgical music, based on classical Indian ragas, that combines drumming, guitar playing, and call-and-response lyrics based on verses of the *Sri Guru Granth Sahib*, the main Sikh spiritual text. 7:30 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill St. Free. 761-7435.

"Making Music for Mott": U-M Life Sciences Orchestra. Clinton Smith and Sameer Patel conduct this ensemble of musicians from the U-M medical and life sciences staff in a program highlighted by 2 pieces featuring 14-year-old violin prodigy **Jourdan Urbach**, Henri Vieuxtemps's Violin Concerto no. 5 and Pablo de Sarasate's *Carmen Fantasie*, based on the Bizet opera. Also on the program: the Overture to Franz von Suppe's otherwise forgotten opera *Poet and Peasant*, Grieg's *Peer Gynt Suite*, the Fanfare from Strauss's symphonic poem *Also Sprach Zarathustra*, and the Overture to Rossini's *William Tell*. Proceeds benefit Mott Hospital. Dessert afterward (\$25). 7:30 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets \$25 (children 12 and younger, \$5; students and seniors, \$10) in advance or at the door. 936-9134.

***"La Tragedie de Carmen": U-M Opera Theater Department.** See 19 Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

***Improvisation Concert: U-M Residential College.** U-M music professor Mark Kirschenmann directs RC students in this annual concert of original music in various genres that is always fun, innovative, and loud. 8 p.m., Residential College Auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 647-4354.

***Ann Arbor Train & Trolley Watchers.** Slide-illustrated talks by club members Gerald Grossman on "Marías Pass," a high mountain pass near Glacier National Park, and John Ryan on "A Digital Delight." 8 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church social hall, 306 N. Division ("just up the hill from the Amtrak station"). Free. 971-8329.

"Student Choreography Concert": EMU Dance Department. April 20 & 21. U-M dance seniors premiere their recent work. 8 p.m., Olds/Robb Student Rec Center Warner Dance Studio, W. Circle Dr. (next to Bowen Field House off Oakwood north from Washtenaw), EMU campus, Ypsilanti. \$5 at the door only. 487-2282.

Trinity Irish Dance Company: University Musical Society. April 20 & 21. Mark Howard directs this 17-year-old Chicago progressive Irish dance ensemble known for its pell-mell, percussive dynamism, agile grace, and honed precision. With a repertoire that includes everything from traditional hard-shoe jigs and reels to imaginative soft-shoe works approaching ballet—and one work that sets Irish steps to classical Indian music—the group transcends the framework of Irish dance. One critic called the lively, inventive choreography "a far cry from the mechanized clacking of Riverdance." 8 p.m., Power Center. Tickets \$18-\$40 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538.

Opus 21: Kerrytown Concert House. This New York- and Michigan-based new-music ensemble, which one critic called "vibrantly broad-minded," performs the world premieres of Louis Andriessen's *Klokken voor Haarlem*, David Lang's *Stick Figure*, and Steve Reich's *New York Counterpoint*. Also, works by Richard Adams, Anna Clyne, Mark Dancigers, Dennis DeSantis, and Bill Ryan. Opus 21 members are violinist Renata Knific, drummer Tim Froncek, bassist Tom Knific, cellist Alexa Muhly, saxophonist Trent Kynaston, clarinetist Bradley Wong, pianist Steve Zegree, and percussionists Judy Moonert and Gregory Secor. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets \$10, \$15, & \$25 (students, \$5) in advance and at the door. 769-2999.

***EMU Chorus: EMU Music Department.** Bradley Bloom directs the University Choir, Chamber Choir, University Symphony Orchestra, and faculty soloists in Vaughan Williams's *Serenade to Music*. Soloists are soprano Glenda Kirkland, mezzo-soprano Kathleen Segar, tenor Ernest Brandon, bass Emery Stevens, and violinist Daniel Foster. Also, Bach's Cantata no. 150 and James Nissen's *Requiem for a Millennium*, a work for chorus, synthesizers, and organ. 8 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-0280.

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20 FRIDAY continued

Four Bitchin' Babes: The Ark. An evening of alternately hilarious and poignant songs about the joys and dilemmas of contemporary life presented by this popular troupe of 4 singer-songwriters. The current lineup is **Sally Fingerett, Debi Smith, Deirdre Flint, and Nancy Moran.** 8 p.m., *The Ark, 316 S. Main.* Tickets \$20 in advance at *Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.*

"The Fantasticks": Concordia University. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"In the Heart of America": Blackbird Theater Productions. See 6 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Cactus Flower": Ann Arbor Civic Theater. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"You Know I Can't Hear You When the Water's Running": Dexter Community Players. See 13 Friday. 8 p.m.

"When the Lights Come On": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Jackie Flynn: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 19 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Avenue Montaigne" (Daniele Thompson, 2007). April 20-26. Light, slice-of-life comedy about a new girl in town looking for work and the various people whose lives she touches. French, subtitles. \$8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, \$6.75; MTF members, \$6). 668-TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA. **"The Host"** (Bong Joon-Ho, 2006). April 20-26. Horror movie about a mutant sea creature, inadvertently spawned by the carelessness of the American army, that terrorizes the locals. Korean, subtitles. \$8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, \$6.75; MTF members, \$6). 668-TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA. **U-M Screen Arts & Cultures. "Lightworks Festival: End-of-Term Screenings"** April 20 & 21. A smorgasbord of short films in various genres that are the culminating term projects for U-M film students in 300-level (April 20) and 400-level (April 21) film classes. FREE. 763-4087. Natural Science Auditorium. 6 p.m.-midnight.

21 SATURDAY

"Identity Theft and Your Credit": U-M Center for the Education of Women. Talk by two local budget counselors and Internet safety counselors TBA. 9 a.m.-noon, CEW, 330 E. Liberty. Free. 998-7080.

"8th Annual Ray of Hope Fashion Show": Mary Kay. This festive fund-raiser kicks off with music by a string quartet TBA, to accompany a silent auction of jewelry and other goods, followed by a talk by local Food for Life instructor Jan Kemp. After lunch, a show of women's and children's spring fashions from local boutiques. Proceeds benefit the Mary Kay Ash Charitable Foundation, which provides grants to women's cancer research and domestic violence agencies. 9 a.m.-noon, Sheraton Inn Michigan Room, 3200 Boardwalk. Tickets \$30 in advance only. 429-2433.

"River Roundup": Huron River Watershed Council. All invited to learn about and help collect macroinvertebrates—commonly referred to as bugs—from Huron River tributaries as part of the Adopt-a-Stream program for measuring the river's health. Be prepared for mud and poison ivy; dress for the weather and bring a bag lunch and something for sitting on wet grass. The Roundup is a popular event; some 120 people attended a recent one. Children welcome if accompanied by at least 1 adult. Rain or shine. 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. & 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m. (pick one session), meet at the NEW Center, 1100 N. Main. Free. Pre-registration required by April 9. 769-5971.

Annual Garage Sale: King of Kings Lutheran Church. Thousands of used items, including antiques, toys, clothes, appliances, electronics, and more. Proceeds benefit the church. No early sales. 9 a.m.-2 p.m., King of Kings Lutheran Church, 2685 Packard at Eisenhower. Free admission. 971-1417.

Kung Fu Michigan. A chance to try 12 kung fu techniques. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 749 Airport Blvd. Free. 332-3393.

"Marshmallow Pops": Busch's Kids Cooking. Kids invited to make a take-home treat. 10-11 a.m., Busch's celebration station, 2240 S. Main. Free. Pre-registration required. 998-2666.

"National Astronomy Weekend Events": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum/Ann Arbor Family Days. April 21 & 22. Talks by Lowbrow Astronomers, 2 planetarium shows, and astronomy-related activities. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (Apr. 21) & noon-4 p.m. (Apr. 22), Hands-On Museum, 220 E. Ann. \$7 (members and infants free) regular museum admission. 995-5439.

***Volunteer Stewardship Workday: Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation Division.** See 1 Sunday. Today: a trip to **Huron Hills Golf Course** to remove a variety of invasive plants. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., meet at the Huron Hills entrance on Hunting Valley off Provincial Dr. via Arlington Dr. north from Washtenaw east of Manchester. Free. 996-3266.

***"Leonard Preserve Floodplain Hike and Garlic Mustard Pull": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.** WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner leads a garlic mustard pull (10 a.m.-noon) and a botany hike along the river's edge (12:30-2 p.m.). Bring gloves and a sack lunch. 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Leonard Preserve, meet at the dead end of Union St. north off Main west of M-52, Manchester. Free. 971-6337.

***"Morning of Song and Dance": Ann Arbor District Library/Ann Arbor Family Days.** A showcase of song and dance with the **Dance Gallery Youth Ensemble** and the **Ann Arbor Youth Chorale**, who perform both together and separately. 10-11 a.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-8301.

***"Children's Medieval Faire": Allen Creek Preschool.** Festively costumed members of the local chapter of the Society for Creative Anachronism host a hands-on family-oriented festival of medieval-themed activities, include fiber arts, scroll making, shield painting, games, dancing, and a maypole dance. Kids must be accompanied by an adult. 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Allen Creek Preschool, 2350 Miller. Free. 994-3382.

***Irish Arts Drop-In: University Musical Society/Ann Arbor Family Days.** Kids invited to learn about Irish art and make a take-home craft. 11-45 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Power Center lobby. Free. 764-2538.

***"Exploring African Metalwork": U-M Exhibit Museum/Ann Arbor Family Days.** Family-oriented activities exploring African metalwork, including lost wax brass casting from Ghana. Noon-5 p.m., Exhibit Museum, North University at Geddes. Free. 764-0478.

***"Old Boys Weekend": U-M Men's Rugby.** The current U-M college and city teams play a series of matches against U-M rugby alumni. 1 p.m., Mitchell Field, Fuller Rd. Free. 417-4534.

***"Salamanders": Waterloo Recreation Area.** Talk by Waterloo Recreation Area park interpreter Kathy Kavanagh. 2 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd. (west from Pierce Rd. off I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. Free. Space limited; preregistration required. Vehicle entrance fees: \$6/day, \$24/year (\$6/year for seniors age 65 & over). 475-3170.

***Instrument Petting Zoo: Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra/Ann Arbor Family Days.** April 21 & 22. Symphony members demonstrate violins and cellos and help kids play scaled-down versions. 3-4 p.m. (Apr. 21) & 2-3 p.m. (Apr. 22), Michigan Theater. Free. 994-4801.

Annual Demonstration: Aikido Yoshokai Association of North America. Genyokan Dojo teacher Takashi Kushida, an internationally recognized aikido master, stars in this demonstration of the Japanese martial art known as "the way of harmony." Also, demos by aikido practitioners, young students, and a *genbu sotojutsu* (sword art) demonstration. 3:30 p.m., U-M Sports Coliseum, 721 S. Fifth Ave. at Hill. Tickets \$10 (age 12 & under, \$5) at the door only. 662-4686.

"29th Annual Beau-Debutante Ball": Jack & Jill of America. Several local African American high school senior couples are presented at this formal ball, which includes a catered dinner and dancing to live music TBA. 6 p.m., Sheraton Four Points, 3200 Boardwalk. Tickets \$45 in advance only. 668-0881.

"Dancing with the Stars": EMU Music Department. Dinner, followed at 8 p.m. by dancing to big-band music by the **Couriers**, a popular 9-piece local big band, led by former Gene Krupa trombonist **Al Townsend** and featuring vocalist **Lynne Raglin**, that plays the music of Count Basie, Glenn Miller, and Tommy Dorsey. Also, a set by the **EMU Jazz Ensemble**. Proceeds benefit the EMU Al Townsend Endowed Scholarship in Jazz Studies. Cash bar. 6 p.m.-midnight, 350 Student Center auditorium, 900 Oakwood (between Washtenaw & N. Huron River Dr.), EMU campus, Ypsilanti. Tickets \$60 in advance only. 487-0277.

***Spring Storytelling Festival: Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild.** See 20 Friday. Today: "What on Earth?" Rob McCabe, Sharon Noffsinger, Carol Pranschke, and Judy Schmidt tell stories for adults and older teens. 6:30 p.m.

Hometown Concert: Chelsea House Orchestra. Featured guest artist is the **Royal Garden Trio**, an Ann Arbor ensemble that plays early jazz standards and Hot Club-style gypsy jazz. The Chelsea House Orchestra, an ensemble of more than 30 students, plays world groove music. Opening act is the **Beach (Middle School) Fiddle Club**. 7 p.m., Washington

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WSU English professor emerita Gloria Kitto
Lewis joins an ad hoc chamber orchestra to
perform Bach, Haydn, and Beethoven at St.
Andrew's Church Apr. 22.

Street Education Center, 500 Washington, Chelsea.
\$10 (students & seniors, \$5) in advance at tickets@
chelseahouseorchestra.org and (after April 1) at
Chelsea Pharmacy, and at the door. 475-1957.

"Grease": Young People's Theater. See 19 Thurs-
day. 7 p.m.

***"Never Been Kissed": 16th Annual Smithee**
Awards (The Smith-Ka-Teers). (See Up Front, p.
9.) This celebration of bad films features screenings
of 5 clips of commercial feature films for each of 19
categories, including "Most Ludicrous Premise,"
"Worst Science," "Cutting Butter with a Chainsaw,"
"Let's Up the Rating to R," "Deus ex Machina," and
"Worst Acting and Worst Picture." Films typically sam-
pled include the likes of *Seedpeople*, *Leech Woman*,
Nailgun Massacre, *Narcotic Justice*, and *Hell Comes*
to Frogtown. Audience members vote on the "win-
ners." "Unhealthy snacks (including drinks of colors
not found in nature) will be served," notes an organ-
izer. Mature audiences. 7 p.m.-midnight, 1800 Chem-
istry, 930 North University. Free. 975-0610.

"The Wizard of Oz": Pioneer Theater Guild. April
21, 22, & 27-29. Ryan Foy directs Pioneer students
in the classic Harold Arlen and Yip Harburg musical
adaptation of Frank Baum's ever popular fantasy
about a young girl's roundabout journey to her
heart's desire. The score features "Over the Rain-
bow," "Follow the Yellow Brick Road," "We're Off
to See the Wizard," and more. 7:30 p.m., Pioneer
High School Schreiber Auditorium, 601 W. Stadium
at Main. \$5. 994-2191.

3rd Saturday Contra Dance: Cobblestone Farm
Dancers. Robin Warner and Peter Baker call to live
music by the Stout-Hearted String Band. No partner
needed; all dances taught; beginners welcome. Wear
cool, casual clothes and comfy, flat-soled shoes. Pre-
ceded at 3-6 p.m. by a free jam for all musicians.
8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-
Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94). \$10. 665-8863.

"Dance for the Earth": Ecology Center Mary
Beth Doyle Environmental Health Fund Benefit.
This party to celebrate the life and spirit of Mary
Beth Doyle, the beloved Ecology Center staff mem-
ber who was killed in an auto accident in 2004, fea-
tures dancing—hopefully with some of Mary Beth's
unstoppable ferve—to music by the local country-
rock band **Flying Latini Brothers** and the ad hoc
folk-country ensemble **Chris Buhalis & Friends**.
Cash bar. 8-11 p.m., Downtown Home & Garden,
210 S. Ashley. \$15 minimum donation in advance and
at the door. 761-3186, ext. 110.

Breathe Owl Breathe: Canterbury House. The lo-
cal duo of guitarist and banjoist Micah Middaugh and
cellist Andrea Moreno-Beals performs acoustic folk-
rock set to atmospheric, intricately textured instru-
mental and vocal landscapes. 8 p.m., Canterbury
House, 721 E. Huron. \$10 (students, \$5). 764-3162.

RFD Boys: The Ark. Authentic bluegrass
by these longtime local favorites. They
have appeared in numerous festivals and
even made the cover of *Bluegrass Unlim-
ited* magazine. Their shows blend top-
notch musicianship with funny between-
songs dialogue. They have several record-
ings, including *Live and Unrehearsed*, a
1994 Ark performance. Proceeds benefit
the Leslie Science Center, a city parks fa-
cility situated on 50 acres of fields, woods,
and prairie that provides natural science
and environmental education opportunities
for kids and their families. 8 p.m., *The*
Ark, 316 S. Main. \$11 (students, seniors,
& members, \$10) at the door only.
761-1451.

Trinity Irish Dance Company. See 20 Fri-
day. 1 p.m. (family performance) & 8 p.m.

"Student Choreography Concert":
EMU Dance Department. See 20 Friday.
8 p.m.

"The Fantasticks": Concordia Univer-
sity. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Cactus Flower": Ann Arbor Civic The-
ater. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"In the Heart of America": Blackbird
Theater Productions. See 6 Friday. 8
p.m.

"You Know I Can't Hear You When the
Water's Running": Dexter Community
Players. See 13 Friday. 8 p.m.

"When the Lights Come On": Purple
Rose Theater Company. See 5 Thursday.
3 & 8 p.m.

Jackie Flynn: Ann Arbor Comedy
Showcase. See 19 Thursday. 8 & 10:30
p.m.

Scandinavian Couples Dance Party:
Multicultural Folk Arts Center. Tradition-
al turning couples dances, mainly from
Sweden and Norway, including hambo,

schottis, Boda polska, and Telespringar. With live
music by fiddler Bruce Sagan & others TBA. No
partner necessary. Hard-soled shoes strongly recom-
mended. Snacks. Preceded at 7 p.m. by dance les-
sons. 8:30-11 p.m., *Gretchen's House* Dhu Varren,
1580 Dhu Varren. \$8 (students, \$5). 769-7642.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation Pfizer Family-
Friendly Film Series. "Microcosmos" (Claude
Nuridsany & Marie Perennou, 1996). Visually stun-
ning, often witty documentary about the life of in-
sects. FREE. Mich., 1:30 p.m. **"Avenue Montaigne"**
(Daniele Thompson, 2007). See 20 Friday. Mich.,
times TBA. **"The Host"** (Bong Joon-Ho, 2006). See
20 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

22 SUNDAY

***"Earth Day Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring**
Society. Fast-paced 75-mile, moderate-paced 55-
mile, and slow-paced 34-mile rides through scenic
lake areas of Livingston and Washtenaw counties to
"observe our greening Mother Planet from the seat of
the most Earth-friendly transport." 9 a.m., meet at
Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free.
426-5116 (75-mile ride), 975-6648 (55-mile ride),
434-3097 (34-mile ride).

"The Monster Ann Arbor Record & CD Show":
Orangapoid Productions. This popular fair, now in
its 23rd year, is back with more than 50 dealers from
a half dozen states selling rare and collectible used
records and CDs as well as hard-to-find new releases.
Includes every popular music genre from rock 'n'
roll, jazz, soul, pop, country, and blues to funk, punk,
surf, thrash, heavy metal, garage rock, and more.
Also, rock music books, rock videos, posters, and as-
sorted popular culture memorabilia. This show draws
huge crowds all day long. Come early, or someone
else might snatch up the record you're looking for.
Food and beverages for sale. Patrons may bring in a
small number of records to sell. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., *Web-*
ber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. \$3 admission (children 10
& under, free). For information or to reserve a dealer
table, call 475-1006.

***"Sunday Fun": Jewish Community Center Ear-**
ly Childhood Center. Kids age 2 & up (and their
parents) invited to join percussionist Aron Kaufman
for singing and other fun. 10-11 a.m., JCC, 2935
Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of
Packard). Free. 971-4633.

***"Michigan Glass Month": Ann Arbor Art Cen-**
ter/Ann Arbor Family Days. Kids invited to try a
stained glass workshop and examine glass artworks
on display in the gallery. 10 a.m.-2 p.m., *Ann Arbor*
Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. Free. 994-8004.

***"Instruments Around the World": U-M Stearns**
Collection/Ann Arbor Family Days. Kids invited to
play an anglunk, didgeridoo, and gamelan, find a

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Ground up branches from curbside

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22 SUNDAY continued

crocodile on a harp and a bird on a lute, and examine instruments from Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., U-M Stearns Bldg., 2005 Baitz (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 647-9471.

★Earth Day Festival: Ecology Center of Ann Arbor/Ann Arbor Parks Department Family Days. This family-oriented event features alternative fuel vehicles, live animal demos, family-oriented environmental entertainment, and a chance to hike miles of nature trails and outdoor gardens. Also, a chance to view Leslie Science Center's recently acquired **River Raisin Raptors**, entertainment by bubble-maker **Bubbleman** and singer-songwriter **Joe Reilly**, and at 2 p.m. the annual "All Species Parade," a colorful costume parade in which participants represent various endangered plant or animal species. Bring your own costume or make one from materials provided by the Scrap Box. Face painting. Light concession refreshments from Pilar's Catering and Silvio's Organic Pizza. All encouraged to ride their bikes to the festival. Noon-4 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. (Admission fee to enter the Matthaei indoor conservatory.) 994-4176.

★"O-Meet": Southern Michigan Orienteering Club. See 1 Sunday. Noon-2 p.m., Pond Lily Look-out, Green Rd. (east of Clear Lake Rd. 2 miles north from I-94), Chelsea. \$5 (members, \$4; beginners, \$3). 662-1000.

★"Pinckney Recreation Area 'Secret' Hike": Huron Valley Sierra Club. All invited to join club members for a hike, 3-4 miles, at an undisclosed location. Canceled in case of rain. 1 p.m., meet at City Hall to carpool. Free. 477-5715.

★"Gardens, Gardens Everywhere": U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology/Ann Arbor Family Days. Children ages 5-12 invited to learn about the Hanging Gardens of Babylon and make a lotus necklace, olive leaf wreath, or a garden in oil pastels. 1-4 p.m., Kelsey Museum, 434 S. State. Free. Preregistration required for pastel workshop. 647-4167.

★"Genealogy Software": Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County. Club members offer a hands-on introduction to the uses of several popular genealogy programs, as well as mapping and photo editing programs. 1:30 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center auditorium, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off E. Huron River Dr. at Clark Rd.). Use parking lot P and look for the club's signs. Free. 483-2799.

★"Fur, Feathers, Scales, & Slime": Waterloo Natural History Association. Potter Park Zoo (Lansing) staff host a hands-on introduction (with live animals) to the differences between birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, and mammals. 2 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center lower parking lot, Bush Rd. (west off Pierce Rd. from I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. \$2 (family, \$5; WNHA members, free). Space limited; preregistration required. Vehicle entrance fees: \$6/day, \$24/year (\$6/year for seniors age 65 & over). 475-3170.

★"What Do You Love about the Downtown Library?": Ann Arbor District Library. Providence Associates consulting firm moderates a public discussion about what's to like about the facility, services, and scope of the downtown library. 2-3:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4560.

★Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild. All invited to listen to guild members swap stories or bring their own to tell. 2-4 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971-5763.

★"Irving Berlin": Chaverim B'Shirim. This local Jewish choir showcases the music of this classic American songwriter, including hit songs from *Call Me Madam* and *Annie Get Your Gun*. Refreshments. 2 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$5 suggested donation. 971-0990.

★"Cactus Flower": Ann Arbor Civic Theater. See 19 Thursday, 2 p.m.

★"Grease": Young People's Theater. See 19 Thursday, 2 p.m.

★"The Wizard of Oz": Pioneer Theater Guild. See 21 Saturday, 2 p.m.

★"In the Heart of America": Blackbird Theater Productions. See 6 Friday, 2 p.m.

★"When the Lights Come On": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 5 Thursday, 2 p.m.

★"The Fantasticks": Concordia University. See 19 Thursday, 2:30 p.m.

★"8th Annual Side-by-Side Chamber Music Recital": Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts. The school's students perform in chamber ensembles with local professional musicians. Program TBA. 3 p.m., 817 Asa Gray Dr. (off Huron Pkwy.). Free; donations welcome. 995-4625.

★Spring Storytelling Festival: Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild. See 20 Friday. Today: "The Kid in Everyone." Ruth Kumaus, Daryl Mickens, and Tricia Travis tell stories for people of all ages. 4 p.m.

★Violin Recital: Gloria Kitto Lewis & Friends. Retired WSU English professor Lewis, a Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra violinist, is joined by an ad hoc chamber orchestra to perform music from the Baroque to Romantic eras. Violinist **Mark Schup-pener**, a U-M grad student and concertmaster with the Dearborn, Plymouth, and Canton symphonies, conducts an ensemble that includes pianist **Dmitri Vorobiev**, also a U-M grad student, and members of **I Camerati**, a chamber orchestra comprising local professional musicians and U-M music students. Program: Bach's Sonata in C Major for Two Violins and Keyboard, Haydn's Concerto no. 1 in C Major for Violin and Orchestra, and 2 Beethoven works, the Sonata no. 1 in D Major for Violin and Piano, and the Romanze for Violin and Orchestra. 4 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free. 995-1953.

Benefit Concert: Third Millennium Chorale. Alex Cave directs this local mixed-voice chorus in Mozart's *Solemn Vespers*, Schubert's Mass in G, the magnificent final trio and chorus from Gounod's *Faust*, and other works TBA. Also, several romantic selections. Proceeds benefit Healthy Hearts 101, a nonprofit health education program for youth. 4 p.m., First Congregational Church, 608 E. William at State. Donation. 222-3330.

Los Folkloristas: University Musical Society. Founded in 1966 to preserve the traditional music of Mexico and Latin America, this 7-member ensemble remains one of the most popular in all of the Americas. Their repertoire features songs from 15 countries—including pre-Columbian pieces like a Mayan lullaby and Yaqui ritual dance—and their musical arsenal contains more than 100 different traditional instruments, including one made of butterfly cocoons, guitars of various sizes, flutes, seashells and turtle shells, and a wide assortment of percussion instruments. According to the *Christian Science Monitor*, "the only predictable thing about one of their performances is that something peculiarly true and beautiful will surface." 4 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Tickets \$16-\$36 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538.

★"Sacred Drum Circle": Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers. All invited for a freeform drum circle. No experience necessary. Bring a drum if you have one. 5 p.m., Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers, 2007 S. State. \$5. Preregistration requested. 945-8602.

★"Bat Mitzvah Cruise": Jewish Family Services. JFS celebrates its 13th anniversary with a cruise-inspired party that includes a strolling international dinner, a champagne toast, and a floor-show hosted by WOMC-FM radio personality Big Al Muscovito that includes a *Newlyweds*-style game show, a dance demo, and a performance by Jeff "The Magician" Olds. Also, a pool party for middle school kids & older. 5-8 p.m., Travis Pointe Country Club, 2829 Travis Pointe Rd. \$90 (kids, \$25) in advance only by phone and at jfsannarbor.org. 769-0209.

★"Yiddish Literature: Text & Translation": U-M Center for Judaic Studies. Readings of Yiddish poetry and prose, in Yiddish and English, by Benjamin and Barbara Harshav, translators of the recent *Sing, Stranger: A Century of American Yiddish Poetry*. 6 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater. Free. 763-9047.

E.S.T.: The Ark. E.S.T. is the Esbjorn Svensson Trio, an innovative Swedish jazz ensemble whose music incorporates features of electronica, funk, rock, drum 'n' bass, and European classical music. The band uses lighting effects and dry ice in its live shows, which also regularly feature sing-alongs to jazz standards like Thelonious Monk's "Bemsha Swing." Led by keyboardist Svensson, the trio also includes bassist Dan Berglund and drummer-percussionist Magnus Ostrom. 7:30 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$17.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

★Diana Gannett: U-M School of Music. This U-M bass professor, accompanied by pianist John Ellis and clarinetist Deborah Chodacki, performs Bruch's *Romance and Nocturne*, Dmitry Kabalevsky's Cello Sonata, Joaquin Turina's *Le Oracion de Torero*, Manuel de Falla's *Danse Espagnole*, Enrique Granados's *Oriental*, and Rebecca Clarke's *Prelude, Allegro, and Pastorale*. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Moore Hall, 1100 Baitz (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0583.

Souls of Mischief: The Blind Pig. Underground hip-hop quartet from Oakland, California. "Their Northern California mindset combines chaos, danger, and the avant-garde, all from a very intellectual B-Boy perspective," says *All Music Guide* writer Michael Di Bella, who describes the resulting music as "eru-

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dite but hardcore." Opening acts TBA. 10 p.m.-2
a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), *The Blind Pig*, 208 S.
Ashley. Tickets \$12 in advance at the Michigan
Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets,
\$15 at the door. To charge by phone, call (248)
645-6666.

FILMS

MTF. "Avenue Montaigne" (Daniele Thompson,
2007). See 20 Friday. Mich., times TBA. **"The
Host"** (Bong Joon-Ho, 2006). See 20 Friday. Mich.,
times TBA.

23 MONDAY

***"Meet the Mac": Ann Arbor District Library.**
April 23 & 30. Hands-on 2-part introduction to the
new iMac OSX Tiger. 7-9 p.m., AADL Mac Lab (3rd
floor), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free (AADL non-
cardholders, \$10). Preregistration required.
327-8367.

***"Get the Energy to Enjoy Your Life!": Wholistic
Doc.** Talk by local chiropractor Shannon Dicks. 7-8
p.m., Nutritional Healing Centers of Ann Arbor, 3610
W. Liberty. Free. Preregistration requested.
302-7575.

***"Kabul Beauty School: An American Woman
Goes Beyond the Veil": Liberty Borders.** Michigan-
bred writer **Deborah Rodriguez** discusses her warm-
hearted, juicy memoir about her experience in
Afghanistan, where she went to serve as a medical
worker but, finding her skills as a former beautician
in greater demand, instead managed to wangle a
shipload of beauty products into Kabul and open a
beauty shop. A *Booklist* critic calls *Kabul* "refresh-
ingly charismatic and gossipy." Also, signing. 7 p.m.,
Borders, 612 Liberty. Free. 668-7652.

***American Birth in the 21st Century: Ann Arbor
District Library.** All area women invited to join a
discussion led by members of this advocacy group
started by a group of southeast Michigan midwives,
doulas, and parents. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose
room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4560.

***"Yiddish Music with Michael Alpert": U-M
Center for Judaic Studies.** Alpert, a veteran multi-
instrumental klezmer star and ethnomusicologist
who's recorded with everyone from klezmer innova-
tor David Krakauer to violin virtuoso Itzhak Perlman,
discusses the history of klezmer and Yiddish music,
interspersed with live examples. 7 p.m., *Lydia
Mendelssohn Theater*, Michigan League. Free.
763-9047.

FILMS

Melange. "Monday Night Movie & Dinner." See 2
Monday. Tonight: *Little Miss Sunshine* (Jonathan
Dayton & Valerie Faris, 2006), a road comedy about
a dysfunctional family brought together by the
daughter's dream of competing in a beauty pageant.
Melange, 6:30 p.m. **MTF. "Avenue Montaigne"**
(Daniele Thompson, 2007). See 20 Friday. Mich.,
times TBA. **"The Host"** (Bong Joon-Ho, 2006). See
20 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

24 TUESDAY

***"Oh, for a Good Night's Sleep": U-M Turner
Geriatrics Center.** U-M psychiatry professor
Roseanne Armitage discusses strategies for improv-
ing the quality and length of your sleep. Noon-1:30
p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth
Rd. Free. Preregistration required. 998-9353.

**"Introduction to Artisan Cheese": Morgan and
York.** Local *maitre de fromage* Simone Jenkins hosts
a tasting of traditional handmade artisan cheeses and
discusses how to gauge cheese quality and select,
store, and serve the cheeses. 6:30-8:30 p.m., *Morgan
and York*, 1928 Packard. \$35. 662-0798.

***"Natural Remedies for Traveling": People's
Food Co-op.** PFC staff member Carrie discusses
remedies for common health issues when traveling.
7-8:30 p.m., *People's Food Co-op*, 216 N. Fourth
Ave. Free. 994-4589.

***"Laughing Mad: The Black Comic Persona in
Post-Soul America": Shaman Drum Bookshop.** U-
M screen arts & cultures professor **Bambi Haggins**
reads from her new book about influence of African
American stand-up comics on mainstream American
culture. Signing. 7 p.m., *Shaman Drum*, 315 S. State.
Free. 662-7407.

***Pfizer Strategic Action Working Team: Ann Ar-
bor District Library.** Ann Arbor SPARK CEO
Michael Finney presents an update on the progress
made by this consortium of community leaders in re-
sponding to the impending departure of Pfizer from
town. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S.
Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4560.

***Patrick McManus: Nicola's Books.** This *Outdoor
Life* humor columnist discusses *Avalanche*, the 2nd
novel in his best-selling series of quirky Bo Tully
mysteries. Also, signing. 7 p.m., *Nicola's Books*,
Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

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On Tuesday, May 1, 2007,
in observance of Law Day
lawyers will be available to
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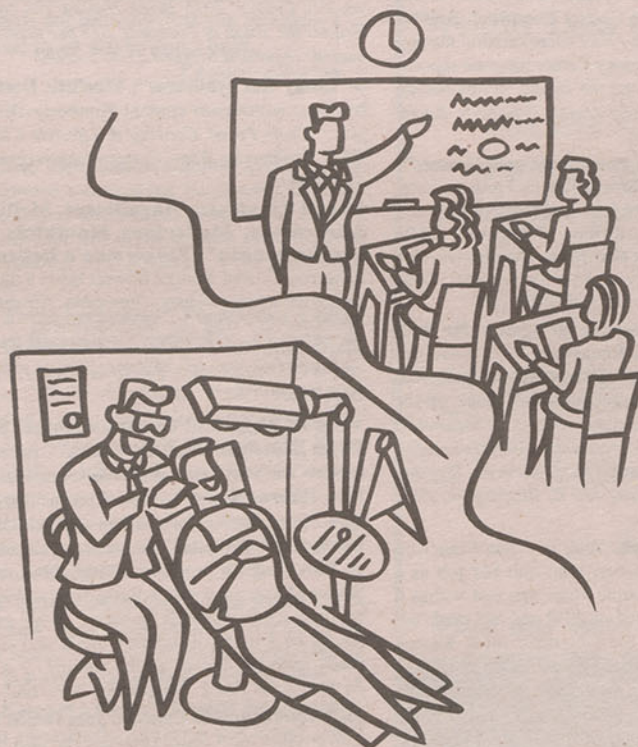
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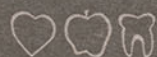
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24 TUESDAY continued

Dinner Dance: Tuesday Night Dancers. Ballroom dancing to live music by the Mike Wolverton Band. Includes fox-trots, waltzes, Latin and swing dancing, and more. Singles and couples welcome. Preceded at 7 p.m. by dinner. No jeans. 8-10:45 p.m., *Grotto Club of Ann Arbor*, 2070 W. Stadium. \$17 (includes dinner) in advance only. (517) 787-6367, (517) 592-5771.

Dana Cooper: The Ark "Take a Chance Tuesdays." Veteran Missouri-bred folk-rock singer-songwriter from Nashville whose songs are known for their melodic inventiveness and poetically evocative lyrical sophistication. His songs have been recorded by everyone from Maura O'Connell to Trout Fishing in America. He recently released his 6th CD, *Made of Mud*. Part of a monthly series of free concerts showcasing lesser-known artists on the roster of the prestigious local management agency Fleming Artists. All encouraged to bring nonperishable food or money to donate to Food Gatherers, 8 p.m., *The Ark*, 316 S. Main. Free. 761-1451.

FILMS

MTF. "Avenue Montaigne" (Daniele Thompson, 2007). See 20 Friday, Mich., times TBA. **"The Host"** (Bong Joon-Ho, 2006). See 20 Friday, Mich., times TBA.

25 WEDNESDAY

Ann Arbor Indoor Atlatl Contest: Michigan Atlatl Association. All invited to try their atlatl skills in 30-throw and 10-throw contests. *Atlatl* is a Nahuatl (Aztec) word for a Neolithic device used for throwing a spear or dart, a weapon that predates the bow & arrow by millennia. In Michigan, these weapons (under an unknown name) were used to kill mastodons and other large mammals. A limited number of loaner atlats are available; bring your own if you have one. 7-8:30 p.m., *4 Seasons Archery*, 297 N. Maple. \$7. 913-6283; (810) 231-2314.

Ypsilanti-Ann Arbor Area Robotics Club. All invited to meet robotics hobbyists and check out and informally discuss their current gadgets and toys. Legos Mindstorms robots and radio-controlled cars available for kids to use. 7 p.m., *Corsa Instruments*, 2370 Abbott (off Stadium just south of Jackson). Free. 332-1000.

"Allergies and Asthma": Wholistic Doctor. Talk by local chiropractor Darren Schmidt. 7-8 p.m., *Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom*, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations recommended. 975-4500.

"Scharffen Berger Rendez-Vous": Zingerman's Delicatessen. Zingerman's staff discuss and offer taste samples of a variety of gourmet Scharffen Berger chocolate bars and a Scharffen Berger hot chocolate. 7-8 p.m., *Zingerman's Next Door* (upstairs kids room), 422 Detroit St. \$15. Space limited; reservations required. 663-3354.

"Trains and Transit in Southeast Michigan": Ecology Center Annual Meeting. Talks on current state of plans for regional commuter rail service by Detroit Regional Mass Transit CEO John Hertel, Transportation Riders United executive director Megan Owens, and Ann Arbor transportation manager Eli Cooper. Also, Ecology Center program reports, board election results, and the annual environmental awards. 7 p.m., *Michigan Union Pendleton Room*. Free. 761-3186, ext 110.

"Landscaping with Perennials and Grasses": Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by Fresh Air Interior Landscaping owner (and Saguaro Nursery and Gardens founder) Richard Tuttle. 7-8:30 p.m., *AADL Pittsfield Branch*, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-4265.

"Esalen: America and the Religion of No Religion": Shaman Drum Bookshop. Rice University religious studies professor Jeffrey Kripal reads from his new book about the seminal influence on the counterculture of the Esalen Institute, a humanistic educational institution in northern California founded in 1962 by Michael Murphy and Dick Price. Signing. 7 p.m., *The Neutral Zone*, 310 E. Washington. Free. 662-7407.

Vienna Teng: The Ark. Teng is a San Francisco pop-rock singer-songwriter who quit her job as a software engineer a couple years ago and within 6 months had been featured on NPR and had made her network TV debut on the Letterman show. Known for their graceful melodies and evocative lyrics, her songs range from spare, melancholy piano ballads to lush, multilayered musical landscapes—she recently toured Europe with a quartet from the Berlin Philharmonic. She has released 3 CDs, including the recent *Dreaming Through the Noise*, a collection of finely honed story songs. 7:30 & 10 p.m., *The Ark*, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$20 in advance at Herb David Guitar

Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

"When the Lights Come On": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 5 Thursday, 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 4 Wednesday, 8 p.m.

Brother Ali: The Blind Pig. This acclaimed Minneapolis hip-hop MC is known for his resonant soul and funk-flavored music, arrestingly expressive rapping, and ambitiously searching rhymes. *Pitchfork* calls him "one of the first great voices to emerge from the underground this century." He has a new Rhymesayers CD, *The Undisputed Truth*. Opening acts are **Psalm One**, a Chicago hip-hop MC, and **One Be Lo**, a hip-hop MC from Pontiac also known as One Man Army. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), *The Blind Pig*, 208 S. Ashley. Tickets \$15 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, \$25 at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645-6666.

FILMS

MTF. "Avenue Montaigne" (Daniele Thompson, 2007). See 20 Friday, Mich., times TBA. **"The Host"** (Bong Joon-Ho, 2006). See 20 Friday, Mich., times TBA.

26 THURSDAY

"Mushrooms, Seaweed, and Weeds: Finding Health in Unusual Places": People's Food Co-op. Talk by local holistic health practitioner Linda Feldt. 10-11:30 a.m., *Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room*, 114 S. Main St. Free. 769-0095.

"Introduction to Microsoft Word": Ann Arbor District Library. April 26 & 27. A 2-part hands-on introduction to this popular word-processing program. 10 a.m., *AADL Malletts Creek Branch*, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free (AADL noncardholders, \$10). Preregistration required. 327-8367.

"Trunk-a-Palooza": Kerrytown Market. Monthly garage sale with folks selling everything from musical jugs to ruby red cowboy boots from the trunks of their cars. Live music TBA. Food available. 5-8 p.m., *Farmers' Market*, between Fourth Ave. and Detroit St. Free admission. Vendors: preregister for \$20 at <http://glbtbooks.com/TrunkInput.htm>.

"Garlic Mustard Pull": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission. A WCPARC naturalist TBA leads a hike around the park to yank out handfuls of this invasive plant. Bring gloves. 6-8 p.m., meet at Park Lyndon North, North Territorial Rd. (east of M-52), Lyndon Twp. Free. 971-6337.

Floor Hockey Night: Northside Elementary. All invited to an evening of floor hockey games. Also, screening of a family-friendly movie TBA. Snacks available. Proceeds benefit the school. 6-8 p.m., *Northside Elementary School*, 905 Barton Dr. \$5 (family, \$15). 913-6941.

"Family Literacy Night": Jewish Community Center. This program for kids in grade 2 & up and their families features a pizza dinner and a variety of literacy activities and games based on Jewish stories. Also a guest storyteller TBA. 6-8 p.m., *Jewish Community Center*, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$15 per family. Reservations requested by April 23. 971-0990.

"Leaky Gut Syndrome": Wholistic Doctor. Talk by local naturopath student Kimberly Didia. 7-8 p.m., *Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom*, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations recommended. 975-4500.

"April Zingfeast: Magnificent, Mellifluous, Miraculous, Meticulous Mouthfuls of the Mediterranean": Zingerman's Delicatessen. Zingerman's chef Rodger Bowser hosts a dinner featuring the many cuisines—European, African, Asian, Arabic—that ring the Mediterranean. 7-8 p.m., *Zingerman's Next Door* (upstairs kids room), 422 Detroit St. \$35 in advance, \$40 (if available) at the door. 663-3354.

Sarah Riggs and Christine Hume: Shaman Drum Bookshop. Readings by these 2 poets. Riggs, a New York native who now lives in Paris, reads from *Waterwork*, a collection of poems that turn images from contemporary culture and natural history into mosaics of rhythm and patterned sound. Hume, an EMU English professor whose debut collection *Musca Domestica* won the Bernard Newman Poets prize for its playfully inventive, richly embossed poems on a range of ordinary things and situations, reads from her recent work. Signing. 7 p.m., *The Neutral Zone*, 310 E. Washington. Free. 662-7407.

12th Annual Benefit Concert: Jazz Dance Theater. This popular local dance company directed by Adam Clark and Lisa Darby Clark performs original jazz, modern dance, fusion, and more. Tonight's program features the premiere of *Sometimes You Lose*, along with repertory works that include *Three Preludes*, *Al-*

ibi, *Tiny Bubbles*, and *Bitter Sweet*. Also, performances by members of the area youth ensemble Youth Dance Project. Proceeds benefit U-M Mott Children's Hospital. 7 p.m., *Power Center*. Tickets \$13 (students & seniors, \$9) in advance at the *Dancer's Boutique* and at the door. 429-9599.

"Repotting Your Bonsai Trees": Ann Arbor Bonsai Society. Lecture-demos by club members TBA. 7:30 p.m., *Matthaei*, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 747-6493.

"Our Austro-German Heritage": Ypsilanti Community Band. Jerry Robbins directs this 70-member adult band in the world's 2nd most popular march, Carl Teike's rousing "Old Comrades' March." Also, Wagner's emotive *Elsa's Procession to the Cathedral* and the Overture to *Rienzi*. "Vilia" from Lehar's *The Merry Widow*, and Franz von Suppe's lighthearted overture *Morning, Noon, and Night in Vienna*. 7:30 p.m., *Washtenaw Community College Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towles Auditorium*, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 654-9414.

Honors Student Recital: Concordia University. Concordia vocal and instrumental students perform a program TBA. 7:30 p.m., *Concordia Chapel of the Holy Trinity*, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Free. 995-4616.

Patty Griffin: The Ark. Fast-rising roots-music singer-songwriter from Maine whose music is a deft, fiercely personal blend of country, blues, gospel, soul, and sinewy rock 'n' roll. According to the *New York Times*, "Griffin can be whispery and conversational like Rickie Lee Jones, bend blues phrases like Bonnie Raitt, or work herself into a country singer's breaking moans—she can confide memories or hurl challenges." 7:30 p.m., *Michigan Theater*, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$25-\$50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

Bill Kirchen: The Ark. An Ann Arbor native who first gained fame as the guitarist in Commander Cody's Lost Planet Airmen, Kirchen and his band play a rowdy mix of rockabilly, honky-tonk, blues, swing, and truck-driving songs that critics have dubbed "dieselbilly." Kirchen, who has lived in Washington, D.C., since 1986, has been inducted into the Washington Area Music Association Hall of Fame. "[Kirchen's] no-nonsense diesel guitar attack, powered by great booming, bottom-heavy licks still covered with axle grease, is undoubtedly the real thing. Scattering scorching guitar runs in all directions, it's all immediate, in your face, and more than a little dangerous," says the *Austin American-Statesman*. Kirchen, who performs tonight with his band, has a brand-new CD, *Hammer of the Honky-Tonk Gods*, a collection of songs showcasing his stylistic versatility, from hardcore honky-tonk and rockabilly to acoustic swing and countrypolitan balladry. 8 p.m., *The Ark*, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$15 in advance at *Borders on Liberty*, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

"West Side Story": Father Gabriel Richard High School. April 26-29. Anne Kolaczowski-Magee directs Gabriel Richard students in Arthur Laurent's spirited musical adaptation of Romeo and Juliet, set in New York and featuring the rival street gangs the Sharks and the Jets. The beloved Leonard Bernstein-Stephen Sondheim score includes such favorites as "Maria," "Tonight," and "America." 8 p.m., *Riverside Arts Center*, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tickets \$5 in advance and at the door. 662-0496.

"Amadeus": Performance Network Professional Season. Every Thursday through Sunday, April 26-June 10. Gillian Eaton directs Peter Shaffer's 1981 Tony-winning drama about the consuming jealousy of Antonio Salieri, a composer who realizes his own mediocrity when confronted with the undeniable genius of a boorish young Mozart. Salieri sabotages Mozart's career to benefit his own, and his tormented guilt and Mozart's suffering make for a powerful contrast between 2 fundamentally unappealing characters. Cast: Malcolm Tulip, Chris Korte, Aphrodite Nikolovski, Loren Bass, Gregory Olszewski, and Charles Sutherland. 8 p.m., *Performance Network*, 120 E. Huron. Preview tickets: whatever you can afford to pay (Apr. 26), \$20 (Apr. 27 & 29 and May 3), and \$28 (Apr. 28). May 4 opening night tickets: \$37 (includes reception). After May 4: \$25 (Thurs.), \$30 (Fri., Sat. matinee, & Sun.), and \$35 (Sat. eve.). Discounts available for seniors & (during previews) adults under age 30. Tickets available in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. Half-price student rush tickets available 1 hour before showtime. For reservations, call 663-0681; to charge by phone, call 663-0696.

"When the Lights Come On": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 5 Thursday, 8 p.m.

Norm Stulz: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. April 26-28. Veteran Detroit stand-up comic who specializes in funny tales about raising 3 kids and other as-

the writing life



J. ADRIAN WYLLIE

Ann Arbor Area Writers Group

The more eyes, the better

Every Tuesday, area writers wedge themselves between the Money Management and Pop/Rock sections at Arborland Borders to review each other's work. The night I attended, ten folks were crowded around a table, intently studying their papers. I got a chair and squeezed in. A plate of chocolate-dipped strawberries sat in the center of the table, just out of reach.

A woman with shoulder-length brown hair was reading out loud. Good, I thought. Reading out loud is a great comprehension and editing tool. The story was good, too. It was a scene on a bus with teenagers bantering back and forth. She used satisfying metaphors, like "John... whose misery had splattered onto Kelly and me."

When she finished the reading, the woman sitting next to me offered the first comments. "I like this one better than the first version," she said, "but I feel like you could have done it in about a page and a half." A lively discussion ensued. Was it too long? Did she need to clarify this section? Was the movie reference accurate?

This woman got exactly what she came for: honest, constructive, intelligent feedback. She listened, thought, and responded. It was perfect. The more eyes on your work the better, I say.

The next writer passed out a chapter from her historical novel about Helen of Troy. There weren't enough copies to go around, so I shared one with the woman next to me. I was startled to see her make notes on the paper and edit exactly as I would. And here I had thought my insights were so unique and clever.

After the reading, more discussion ensued. A bearded man in a wool vest had concerns about some of the physical probabilities in a story about a woman being kidnapped. "How can she flail her legs if she's standing up?" he asked.

"Oh, he's just taking a chance for a grope," one woman responded flippantly, referring to the kidnapper. "Men do that all the time."

"No, he's not trying to grope," the bearded man insisted, still looking at the paper. But no one was listening. The group caught a giddy wave and joked about groping until he patiently redirected them back to the work at hand. They made their notes, signed the copies, and gave them back to the writer.

On the night I attended, the writing was surprisingly strong, presumably because of the effectiveness of the feedback-edit-resubmit process. Everything read that night had already gone through revisions based on previous feedback. Strong writing is just raw material *worked to death*—edited until it's complete.

This is a group for writers willing to self-edit. Each submission left me wishing I could read more. I'll be going back.

—Charmie Gholson

pects of family life. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Friday early show is a non-smoking show. 8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. \$5 (Thurs.) & \$8 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$7 (Thurs.) & \$10 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

★"Moonshadow Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Slow-, moderate-, and fast-paced rides, 8-24 miles, along the Gallup Park pathway. Weather permitting. 9 p.m., Mitchell Field parking lot (east end), Fuller Rd. Free. 485-4018.

FILMS

MTF. "Avenue Montaigne" (Daniele Thompson, 2007). See 20 Friday. Mich., times TBA. "The Host" (Bong Joon-Ho, 2006). See 20 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

27 FRIDAY

Rummage Sale: Dixboro United Methodist Church. April 27 & 28. A variety of clothes, books, household goods, kitchen items, tchotchkes, knick-knacks, and doodads. Drop off items April 24-26 (times TBA). Times TBA, DUMC, 5221 Church Rd. (off N. Dixboro Rd. just north of Plymouth Rd.). Free admission. 665-5632.

Spring Sale: First Baptist Church. April 27 & 28. Sale of donated used clothing, housewares, small appliances, books, records, linens, toys, and more. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (Apr. 27) & 9 a.m.-noon (Apr. 28), First Baptist Church, 512 E. Huron. Free admission. 663-9376.

"Cabin Fever Scramble!": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission. All golfers invited to this 18-hole scramble. 1st- and 2nd-place trophies, and "all the chili dogs you can eat." 9 a.m. (registration 8 a.m.), Pierce Lake Golf Course, 1175 S. Main St., Chelsea. \$120 per foursome. 971-6337.

U-M Softball vs. Minnesota. April 27 & 28. Big Ten home opener. 6 p.m. (Apr. 27) & 1 p.m. (Apr. 28), Alumni Field (behind Ray Fisher Stadium), S. State at Hoover. \$4 (youths age 12 & under, \$2; U-M students, free). 764-0247.

★"Kids' Advancement Day": Ann Arbor Quest Martial Arts. Quest Center students demonstrate the range of martial arts and self-defense skills they've learned. 6-9 p.m., location TBA. Free. 332-1800.

"Every Home Is a Castle": Habitat for Humanity. Live and silent auctions of trips to a French castle and to Cancun, a signed Tiger Woods golf bag, the services of a personal chef, and more. Food. Live jazz by the Community High Jazz Band. 6:30-9:30 p.m., Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium,

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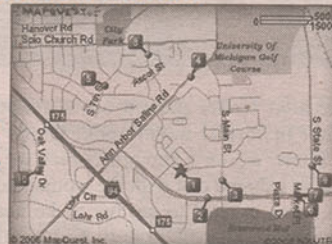


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STOP SNIFFLING EVERY SPRING!!!! Why you get allergy symptoms and natural ways to end them. April 25th @ 6:45pm

UNDERSTANDING DIABETES: How to control the disease so it doesn't control you. May 30th @ 6:45pm

SLOW DOWN AGING!!!! The truth about arthritis and ways to control it. June 27th @ 6:45pm

HEART HEALTH: THE #1 SECRET TO AGING SLOWLY: How to feel younger and live longer. July 25th @ 6:45pm

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27 FRIDAY continued

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677-1558.

Genesis: Neutral Zone. Performance by this up-and-coming Grand Rapids/Detroit hip-hop MC. Emceed by local hip-hop ensemble **Tree City**, which also performs. 7 p.m., *Neutral Zone*, 310 E. Washington St. \$7 (with school ID, \$5). 214-9995.

Wine Tasting: Everyday Cook. A tasting of Michigan and American wines. Appetizers. Proceeds benefit Think Local First. 7-9:30 p.m., *Everyday Cook*, Kerrytown Market, 407 N. Fourth Ave. \$20 at the door only. 730-6905.

"The Totally Awesome Fest": Dreamland Theater. Dreamland celebrates its downtown reopening with music by the local postpunk electronica duo **Melting Moments**, local electro-pop singer-songwriter **Charlie Slick**, the local punk band **Boxcars**, and **Lord of the Yum-Yum**, the stage name of Chicago musician Paul Velat, who, performing in a blue ruffle tuxedo, reshapes familiar tunes with classical and jazz themes, singing them to electronic accompaniment in a guttural scat vocal style that occasionally morphs into throat singing. Also, music and puppetry by singer-songwriter **Patrick Elkins**, a Mad Lib puppet show, a shadow puppet show by **Carrie Morris**, and comedy with **Santa and Rudolph**. 7 p.m.-midnight, *Dreamland Theater*, 26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. Donation. 657-2337.

"Check, Please": Community High Theater Ensemble. April 27 & 28, Anne-Marie Roberts directs CHS students in Jonathan Rand's 2003 one-act comedy, a collage of blind dates gone bad, exploring what happens when your date turns out to be a raging kleptomaniac, or your grandmother's bridge partner, or a mime. 7:30 p.m., *Community High School Craft Theater*, 401 N. Division. (Parking available in the lot behind the school, N. Fifth Ave. at Detroit St.) \$5. 994-2021.

"The Wizard of Oz": Pioneer Theater Guild. See 21 Saturday. 7:30 p.m.

Jazz Ensemble: Concordia University. Sean Dobbins directs this student ensemble in jazz influenced by funk, blues, and swing. 7:30 p.m., *Concordia Kreft Center Black Box Theater*, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Free. 995-4616.

"Art Thing 2007": Sole Full of Rhythm. Dance, song, and mime by local artists. 7:30 p.m. *Ypsilanti High School*, 2095 Packard, Ypsilanti. \$20. 973-1178.

"Sweet Spring": Women's Chamber Chorus. David Perampl directs this independent 30-member local women's chorus in a varied program that ranges from Handel to Broadway tunes. Piano accompanist is Leslie Austin. Also, a performance by the Chamber Maids quartet. 7:30 p.m., *West Side United Methodist Church*, 900 S. Seventh St. Free; donations accepted. 213-3770, 663-5907.

Kat Eggleston: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Veteran Chicago folksinger with a pure, powerful alto voice whose songs balance a melodic sweetness with a sharp-witted emotional directness. She accompanies herself on guitar and hammered dulcimer. Desserts & coffee available. 8 p.m., *FUMC Green Wood Church*, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. \$12 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665-8558.

Paul Thorn: The Ark. Dark, bluesy, sharp-witted, pungently idiomatic original songs by this up-and-coming Mississippi singer-songwriter, the son of a tent revival minister and former professional boxer. His 1999 CD *Ain't Love Strange* provoked comparisons to Lyle Lovett, and the recent *Mission Temple Fireworks Stand* is an engagingly varied collection of trenchantly funny and seductively tenderhearted songs. *All Music Guide* writer Thom Jurek calls Thorn a "soul singer who can slip down into the murk and mess of human emotions with style and aplomb." 8 p.m., *The Ark*, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$15 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

"Cyrano de Bergerac": Huron High School. April 27 & 28 and May 4 & 5. Bj Wallingford and Pam Cardell direct Huron students in Edmond Rostand's romantic verse drama about an eloquent yet painfully self-conscious soldier who agrees to ghost-write his friend's love letters to the woman he himself secretly loves. 8 p.m., Tickets \$8 (students & seniors, \$6). *Huron High School Meyers Auditorium*, 2727 Fuller Rd. 994-2095.

"Amadeus": Performance Network Professional Season. See 26 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"When the Lights Come On": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"West Side Story": Father Gabriel Richard High School. See 26 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Norm Stulz: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 26 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Slum Village: The Blind Pig. Popular Detroit underground hip-hop duo with a decided penchant for down & dirty funk. Opening act is **Black Milk**, a funk- and soul-inflected Detroit hip-hop MC. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.). *The Blind Pig*, 208 S. Ashley. Tickets \$15 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645-6666.

FILMS

Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. "Cave of the Yellow Dogs" (Byambasuren Davaa, 2003). April 4-8. Award-winning quasi-documentary fable by the director of *The Story of the Weeping Camel*, about the age-old bond between man and dog. When a nomadic Mongolian girl adopts a stray dog, her father demands that she leave it behind when they move for the winter. Popcorn. FREE. 994-3387. Jewel Heart (207 E. Washington), 7 p.m.

28 SATURDAY

Annual Rummage Sale: First Unitarian Universalist Congregation. Household goods, collectibles, antiques, art supplies, seasonal decorations, sporting goods, computers, TVs, toys, clothing, furniture, and more. Proceeds benefit the Youth Group's summer building project with Habitat for Humanity. 8 a.m.-4 p.m., *First Unitarian Universalist Congregation*, 4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free admission. 665-6158.

"April Morning Bird Walk": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission. WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner leads a hike to look for grosbeaks, warblers, orioles, bluebirds, and more. 8-10 a.m., *Rolling Hills County Park*, 7660 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti Twp. (Take US-23 south to the Willis Rd. exit, go east, then north on Stony Creek.) Free (\$4 per vehicle park entrance fee). 971-6337.

***Ecosystem Restoration Workday: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens.** All invited to help Matthaei staff members remove invasive plants and prepare new planting sites. Dress for outdoor work. Tools provided, or bring your own. 9 a.m.-noon, *Matthaei*, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 998-9540.

"Endurance 5K Fun Run & Walk": Huron Hills Baptist Church Women's Ministry. 5 km fun run and walk. Preceded by a talk by a speaker TBA. Prizes for top 3 male and female finishers. Proceeds benefit Interfaith Hospitality Network. Prize drawings. 9:30 a.m. (registration begins at 8 a.m.). *Gallup Park picnic pavilion* (enter on the west side of Huron Pkwy., go over the wooden bridge, turn left, and go all the way down). Registration \$18 (family, \$25) in advance by April 27 at *huronhills.org*, \$23 (family, \$30) on race day. 761-1846.

"Hook-In Rug Hookers Show": Crooked Hook Chapter of McGown Hookcrafters Rug Hooking Guild. Show of hooked rugs, which are made by pulling loops of yarn through burlap, and sale of rug-hooking supplies. Lunch included. Door prizes, raffle. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., *Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds*, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. \$12. Free parking. 761-9602.

"Big Spring Book Sale": Friends of the Ann Arbor District Library. April 28-30. A chance to stock up for summer reading: thousands of used books, alphabetized and sorted by genre. Also, used records. Today: all books sold for half price. April 29 & 30 specials: fill a grocery bag with books and records for \$4. After the sale concludes on Monday, the bookshop is closed until September. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (Apr. 28), 1-4 p.m. (Apr. 29), & 10 a.m.-8 p.m. (Apr. 30). AADL (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free admission. 327-4211.

"It's an Art Thing": Performance Network Children's Theater Network. The local modern dance company *People Dancing* performs a trio of original dances for kids in kindergarten through 5th grade. *Caps* is a modern dance based on Esphyr Slobodkina's classic tale "Caps for Sale" that highlights creativity and persistence as lifelong values. *A Better View* is a dance drama exploring an Asian aesthetic that's set to the text of Arthur Lobel's children's book *Ming Lo Moves the Mountain*, and *Madcap Masks* celebrates the relationships between music, dance, and visual art. 11 a.m., *Performance Network*, 120 E. Huron. Tickets \$10 (youth 16 & under, \$7) in advance at *performancenetwork.org* & by phone, and at the door. For reservations or to charge by phone, call 663-0681.

"Getting Ready for Spring at the Farm": Cobblestone Farm Association. Tours of the restored 1844 Ticknor-Campbell farmhouse led by costumed volunteers, who depict mid-19th-century farm routines and preparations for spring. Also, a flower bed with period plants around a cast-iron fountain, a team of oxen tilling the soil, and resident goats, sheep, ducks, chickens, and guinea hens. Visitors can also try out

lawn games like stilts and hoops. Noon-4 p.m., *Cobblestone Farm*, 2781 Packard (next to Buhr Park). \$3 (families, \$9; kids, \$1.50; children 3 & under and members, free). 994-2928.

U-M Baseball Doubleheader vs. MSU. Part of a 4-game weekend series that includes single games in East Lansing on April 27 & 29. 1 p.m., *Ray Fisher Stadium*. \$5 (youths age 12 & under, \$3; U-M students, free). 764-0247.

***"Garlic Mustard Pull": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.** WCPARC naturalist Shawn Severance leads a hike around this urban oasis to yank out handfuls of this invasive plant. Bring gloves. 1-3 p.m., *County Farm Park*, Medford Rd. lot (off Manchester from Washtenaw). Free. 971-6337.

***"Spring Wildflowers": Waterloo Recreation Area.** Waterloo Recreation Area park interpreter Kathy Kavanagh leads a trail hike to look for, learn to identify, and discuss the natural history and folklore of skunk cabbage and other wildflowers currently in bloom. 2 p.m., *Eddy Discovery Center*, Bush Rd. (west from Pierce Rd. off I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. Free. Space limited; preregistration required. Vehicle entrance fees: \$6/day, \$24/year (\$6/year for seniors age 65 & over). 475-3170.

***Sarah Kate Burgess: Ann Arbor Art Center.** This inventive Pontiac jewelry artist, creator of a delightful do-it-yourself rings website project, discusses her work, career, and current trends in jewelry making. In conjunction with the gallery's current exhibit *Jewelry + Object*. 2-4 p.m., *AAAC*, 117 W. Liberty. Free. 994-8004.

***"Who Croaks among Us?": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.** A WCPARC naturalist TBA gives a slide-illustrated talk followed by a hike to look for frogs. Bring nets and containers (frogs released at end of program). 2-3:30 p.m., *Independence Lake County Park*, 3200 Jennings (north off North Territorial), Webster Twp. Free (\$4 per vehicle park entrance fee). 971-6337.

"Dance Michigan: Emerging Choreographers Showcase": Ann Arbor Civic Ballet. An afternoon of new ballet works by the Ann Arbor Civic Ballet and several guest companies, including *Project Dance of Michigan* (Brighton), *Central City Dance* (Canton), *Center Dance Ensemble* of the Eisenhower Dance Ensemble Center for Dance (Rochester Hills), *Lansing Chamber Dance*, *Community High School Dance Body*, and others TBA. 4 p.m., *Saline High School Ellen Ewing Performing Arts Center*, 1300 Campus Pkwy. (off Industrial, north from E. Michigan), Saline. \$6 in advance at *annarbor-civicalballet.com* and at the door. 262-9882.

The Architects: Neutral Zone. Performance by this local indie pop-rock band. Opening act is the Ypsilanti experimental rock band *The Outfit*. 7 p.m., *Neutral Zone*, 310 E. Washington St. \$7 (with school ID, \$5). 214-9995.

"Moon Walk": Leslie Science Center (Ann Arbor Parks Department). Leslie Science Center staff lead a family-oriented walk through Black Pond Woods under an almost full moon. 7:30-9:30 p.m., *Leslie Science Center*, 1831 Traver Rd. \$6 (family, \$25). Preregistration required. 997-1553.

"ENCORE! George Gershwin, Benny Goodman: Celebrate the Music in Dance": Youth Dance Theater of Michigan. April 28 & 29. Wendi DuBois directs this Chelsea-based troupe in Holly Hobbs and Kyle Kooyers's program of original ballet, jazz, and modern dance celebrating the music of Gershwin and Goodman, as well as Chip Davis and John Williams. 7:30 p.m., *Chelsea High School auditorium*, 740 N. Freer, Chelsea. Tickets \$15 (seniors & students, \$8) in advance at the *Glass Slipper in Chelsea* and at the door. 475-3070.

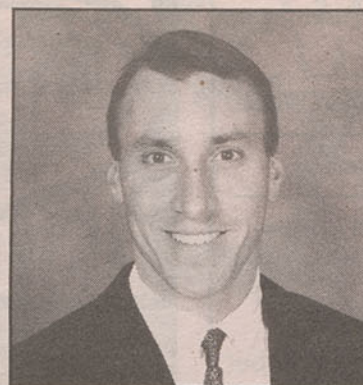
"The Wizard of Oz": Pioneer Theater Guild. See 21 Saturday. 2 & 7:30 p.m.

"Check, Please": Community High Theater Ensemble. See 27 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

Kevin Meisel Band: Chelsea Music Celebrations. Acoustic and electric roots-rock, folk-rock, and folk by this quintet led by Meisel, an Ann Arbor singer-songwriter who specializes in narrative ballads. 8 p.m., *Chelsea High School auditorium*, 740 N. Freer, Chelsea. Tickets \$12 (ages 7-18, \$8; age 6 & under, free) in advance and at the door. 433-2787.

Kiyoshi Nagata Ensemble: The Ark. This acclaimed Toronto-based ensemble led by renowned taiko (Japanese drum) player Nagata performs a modernized variety of Japanese folk drumming that combines thunderous, primal drumbeats and subtle intricate rhythms with synchronized dance moves. Instrumentation includes assorted taiko, along with gongs, bells, wooden clappers, shakers, and bamboo flutes. "Nagata's tremendous passion and discipline constantly manifests itself in mesmerizing performances," says *Toronto Sun* reviewer Errol Nazareth. 8 p.m., *The Ark*, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$20 in advance at *Herb David Guitar Studio*, the *Michigan Union Tick-*

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28 SATURDAY continued

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"Cyrano de Bergerac": Huron High School. See 27 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Amadeus": Performance Network Professional Season. See 26 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"When the Lights Come On": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 5 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"West Side Story": Father Gabriel Richard High School. See 26 Thursday. 1 & 8 p.m.

"Improv with the Vegans": Dreamland Theater. The Detroit-based troupe **Vegan Meat Locker** presents a fast-paced, hugely enjoyable torrent of improv comedy featuring ridiculously absurd scenarios, many based on audience suggestions, and quicksilver humor with hilariously deadpan hairpin twists. Opening act TBA. Note new location. 8 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. \$5. 657-2337.

Norm Stulz: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 26 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Antibalas Afrobeat Orchestra: The Blind Pig. Fela-style Afrobeat grooves with elements of funk and salsa by this very popular New York City dance band known for its galvanizing live shows. Opening act is **Krudas Cubenski**, an all-female hip-hop trio from Havana. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. Ashley. Tickets \$15 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, \$25 at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645-6666.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. Films TBA. \$8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, \$6.75; MTF members, \$6). 668-TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

29 SUNDAY

★"Spring Fling Regatta": U-M Sailing Club. All invited to watch club members and others (entry is free) race each other in JY15 sailboats. 8 a.m., Baseline Lake, 8010 Strawberry Lake Rd., left from Mast off North Territorial. Free. 426-0920.

27th Annual Classic Bicycle Swap Meet: Classic Bike and Whizzer Club. This annual show, swap, and sale features more than 6,000 bikes from every era, including teetery 1880s "penny-farthings," curvy WW II-era bikes, balloon-tire classics, and more. Also, bicycle parts, accessories, and memorabilia. Awards for numerous categories, including the best bike from each decade. Also, a chance to put your bike up for auction. Door prizes. Raffle. Swap spaces available for bike-related items (preregistration recommended). 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. \$3 (kids 9 & under, free). (248) 642-6639.

★"Strawberry Lake Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Fast-paced 75-mile, moderate-paced 50-mile, and slow-paced 35-mile rides to explore Strawberry Lake Road, which is now paved. 9 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 975-6648 (75-mile ride), 996-8316 (50-mile ride), 434-3097 (35-mile ride).

★"The Life and Times of Betty Becker": Ann Arbor Unitarian Fellowship. Talk by Betty Becker, who assisted her late husband, U-M history professor Marvin Becker, in his research on Italian, medieval, and Renaissance history. 10 a.m., Burns Park Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 971-8638.

★**Nature's Expressions.** Show and sale of crystalline mineral specimens, fossils, shells, mounted butterflies and insects, and more. Includes a complete fossil skeleton of a 9-foot, 100,000-year-old cave bear. Features a variety of Christmas gifts. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., 3443 Daleview Dr. (off N. Maple Rd. north of Huron River Dr.). Free. 994-3048.

★17th Annual "Tables and Tea": Women's City Club. Festive display of artfully decorated tea tables, some of whose past themes have included "Breakfast in Brazil," "A Paris Wedding," and "Russians in for Tea," with decorations that have included a wedding gown used as a tablecloth, birdcages, teddy bears, ceramic birds, and mangoes. 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 662-3279.

U-M Softball Doubleheader vs. Wisconsin. Big Ten home opener. Noon, Alumni Field (behind Ray Fisher Stadium), S. State at Hoover. \$4 (youths age 12 & under, \$2; U-M students, free). 764-0247.

★**Waterloo Recreation Area Hike: Huron Valley Sierra Club.** All invited to join club members to hike 3 or 4 miles. Canceled if rain. 1 p.m., meet at City Hall to carpool. Free. 477-5715.

Guided Walk in Horner Woods: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens. Retired Michigan Department of Natural Resources wildlife biologist Sylvia Taylor

leads a walk in Horner Woods, a U-M research site, to spot spring growth, including possibly the twin-leaf, a dainty white-blooming spring ephemeral. 1-4 p.m., meeting place TBA. \$5. 647-7600.

"West Side Story": Father Gabriel Richard High School. See 26 Thursday. 1 p.m.

***"Vinyasa Flow Yoga": Sun Moon Yoga Studio.** A chance to try this dynamic style of yoga. Wear loose, comfy clothing and bring a yoga mat. 1:30-3 p.m., Sun Moon Studio, 404 W. Huron. Free. 929-0274.

"Strange Creatures of the Spring Pond": Waterloo Natural History Association. WNHA naturalist Cathy Claflin discusses little-known pond creatures like the delicate fairy shrimp and fierce diving beetles and shows how to "pour a pond" for yourself. 2 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center lower parking lot, Bush Rd. (west off Pierce Rd. from I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. \$2 (family, \$5; WNHA members, free). Space limited; preregistration required. Vehicle entrance fees: \$6/day, \$24/year (\$6/year for seniors age 65 & over). 475-3170.

***"How Christ Heals Resistant Problems": First Church of Christ, Scientist.** Talk by California Christian Scientist practitioner Robert Gilbert. 2 p.m., 1833 Washtenaw Ave. Free. (810) 231-2551.

Season Finale: Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra. Adam Riccinto directs this volunteer community orchestra in an all-Beethoven program highlighted by the cheerful, often playful Symphony no. 8. Also, Haydn's *Surprise Symphony* and the 1st movement of Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto in E Minor. Violin soloist is Tappan Middle School student **Daniel Lee**, winner of the YSO's annual concerto competition. 2 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. \$12 (seniors & kids under 12, \$8; family of up to 2 adults & 2 kids under 12, \$25) in advance and at the door. 507-1451.

"ENCORE! George Gershwin, Benny Goodman: Celebrate the Music in Dance": Youth Dance Theater of Michigan. See 28 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"The Wizard of Oz": Pioneer Theater Guild. See 21 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"Amadeus": Performance Network Professional Season. See 26 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"When the Lights Come On": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 5 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Moonlight and Love Songs": Ann Arbor Civic Chorus. Rebecca Vlisides directs this popular local amateur chorus in a varied program of romantic songs from works by Brahms, Elgar, and Z. Randall Stroope to Broadway songs and favorites from the American songbook. Accompanied by pianist Gene Gaunt. 3 p.m., Slauson Middle School, 1019 W. Washington. Donation. 994-2300.

3rd Annual Fun Night and Silent Auction: King Elementary School. Silent auction of donated items ranging from vacation trips to ethnic cooking and language classes. Also, display of science posters and projects from students who plan to participate in the May Science Olympiad. Raffles. Dinner available, with reservations required by April 25. 3-7 p.m., King, 3800 Waldenwood Lane. Free admission. 994-1940.

***25th Anniversary Concert: Dexter Community Band.** Former U.S. Army Band staff arranger **James Hosay** is guest conductor for the world premiere of his *Highlander Legend*. Also, Eddy Band (Saginaw) director conducts this 85-member volunteer ensemble in Piet Swerts's *Merry-Go-Round*, and the band's director, Bill Gourley, conducts Alfred Reed's *Armenian Dances*, Grainger's *Irish Tune from County Derry* and *Shepherd's Hey*, "Michigan Morn" from H. Owen Reed's opera *Peter Honan's Dream*, and several Sousa marches, including "Washington Post," "Stars and Stripes Forever," and the band's signature piece "The White Rose." 3 p.m., Dexter Center for the Performing Arts, Dexter High School, 2200 N. Parker (south of Shield from Baker Rd.), Dexter. Free. 426-2734.

***"Be Still, Look Up, and Listen": Treetown Community Chorus.** David Perample directs this independent local mixed chorus in a varied program that includes the music of Ray Charles, some spirituals, and tunes from *That's Entertainment*. 4 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh St. Free; donations accepted. 213-3770, 663-5907.

"Musical Theater Showcase": U-M Musical Theater Department. Graduating musical theater majors preview a revue that they'll perform in front of agents and casting directors in New York. These shows usually sell out; advance purchase is recommended. 4 & 7:30 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater. Tickets \$12 (students, \$9) in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538.

***Society for Women Engineers Book Club: Liberty Borders.** All invited to join a discussion of *Guns, Germs, and Steel*, Jared Diamond's intriguing

and detailed argument that differences in prosperity and power between the West and much of the rest of the world are due primarily to environmental factors. 6-8 p.m., Zanzibar, 216 S. State St. Free. 668-7652.

***Youth Choir Concert: Temple Beth Emeth.** TBE kids in grades 3 and 4 perform a variety of Jewish choral music. 7 p.m., Temple Beth Emeth, 2309 Packard. Free admission. 665-4744.

"Farmfest Benefit": The Ark. Headliner is **Ann Rabson**, a singer, guitarist, and pianist in the all-female acoustic blues ensemble Saffire: The Uppity Blues Women. With the veteran local acoustic singer-songwriter duo **Mustard's Retreat**, nationally renowned local blues & jazz harmonica wiz **Peter Madcat Ruth**, and the Lansing acoustic string quartet **Steppin' in It**, which is joined by the velvet-voiced Cadillac singer-songwriter **Rachael Davis** to perform 30s and 40s jazz standards. A benefit for Farmfest, held annually in Gaylord. 7 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$20 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

Loreena McKennitt: Live Nation. Popular Canadian singer-songwriter whose richly textured music blends traditional Celtic music with Eastern and classical influences, and her lyrics regularly draw on literary sources from Shakespeare to Tennyson. She sings in an achingly pure voice, accompanying herself on harp, accordion, and piano. Her new CD, *An Ancient Muse*, was inspired by her travels along the Silk Road, drawing musical influences from the cultures she encountered along the way to explore themes of home, travel, and cultural intermingling. 7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$45-\$85 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

"Pardes Hannah Torah Benefit Concert": Kerrytown Concert House. Jazz by the Noah Ginsburg and Friends Jazz Trio Ensemble and works by Beethoven, Mozart, and William Grant Still by pianist Renee Robbins and violinist Ian Cumming. Proceeds benefit this Jewish Renewal community. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets \$15 & \$22 (students, \$5). Reservations, 769-2999; information, 635-9441.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. Films TBA. \$8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, \$6.75; MTF members, \$6). 668-TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

30 MONDAY

"Protecting American Civil Liberties by Ending the Iraq War": Washtenaw County Branch of the ACLU Jerome Strong Civil Liberties Award. Talk by the veteran social and political activist **Tom Hayden**, a cofounder of the Students for a Democratic Society while a student at the U-M and a former California state legislator. Also, Michigan ACLU director Kary Moss discusses **"Civil Liberties in Michigan."** The prestigious annual Jerome Strong Award is presented to Mary Rave (posthumously), local high school teacher and poet Jeff Kass, and One United Michigan. Proceeds to benefit various local ACLU projects. Preceded at 5:30 p.m. by appetizers. 6 p.m., The Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington. \$20 (members, free). Reservations requested at aclumich.org or 480-4972.

***Ann Hagedorn: Liberty Borders.** This former *Wall Street Journal* staffer discusses *Savage Peace: Hope and Fear in America, 1919*, her engrossing history of 1919 that examines such issues as postwar upheaval, the widespread fear of Bolshevism, and the struggles of black Americans. Also, signing. 7 p.m., Borders, 612 Liberty. Free. 668-7652.

***"China in a Global Education": Greenhills School Life of the Mind Lecture Series.** Talk by China Institute in America president (and Greenhills alum) **Sara McCalpin**. Q&A. 7:30 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. (off Earhart). Free. 205-4091.

Jonatha Brooke: The Ark. Quirky sophisticated, fiercely unconventional pop-folk by this Boston-based singer-songwriter who is also known for her compellingly eccentric guitar playing. Her latest CDs, *Steady Pull*, *Back in the Circus*, and the new pop-oriented *Careful What You Wish For*, showcase the best music of her career. A favorite with local audiences since her days as a member of the female duo the Story. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$22.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

FILMS

Melange. "Monday Night Movie & Dinner." See 2 Monday. Tonight: *Syriana* (Stephen Gaghan, 2005), a geopolitical thriller about the influence of the oil industry. George Clooney, Matt Damon. Melange, 6:30 p.m.

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Music at Nightspots

by John Hinchey

These bookings come from information available at press time. Last-minute changes are always possible, so to be certain who's playing, it's advisable to call ahead. Unless otherwise noted, live music runs from 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

The Ark

316 S. Main 761-1451

Michigan's leading showcase for American and international performers of all forms of traditional music. Ark shows are included in the daily Events listings. **Apr. 4: Open Stage.** All acoustic performers invited. Fifteen acts are selected randomly from those who sign up to perform 8 minutes (or 2 songs) each. The most talented and popular Open Stage performers are offered their own evenings at the Ark. \$3 (members & students, \$2). 7:30-10 p.m.

Banfield's

3140 Packard Rd. 971-3300

This east-side sports bar features live music or a DJ on Sat., 8 p.m.-midnight. Dancing, no cover. April schedule TBA.

The Blind Pig

208 S. First St. 996-8555

This local music club features live music 5 nights a week, with a varied assortment of local and out-of-town rock 'n' roll, blues, reggae, and dance bands, 10:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Also, occasional early shows, 7-10 p.m. Karaoke on Mon.; closed most Sun. If there's an opening act, the headliner usually goes on stage between 11:30 p.m. and midnight. Cover (except "Showcase Night"), dancing. **Apr. 3: "Showcase Night."** With 4 different young local bands. **Apr. 4: Yoshi.** Ypsilanti R&B and hip-hop band led by singer/rapper Yoshi. Opening acts are hip-hop MCs **Buff 1** and **Street Justice** and DJ **C4** with the breakdancing troupe **B-Boy Exhibition**. **Apr. 5: Jedi Mind Tricks.** Popular Philadelphia hip-hop duo. Opening acts are **Sean Price** and **Grayskul**. See Events. **Apr. 6 (7-10 p.m.): Arrah & the Ferns.** Indie pop band from Indiana. Opening act is **The Great Lakes Myth Society**, a local folk-rock sextet whose music is an eclectic mix of Appalachian music, prog-rock, and sea shanties. Led by singer-songwriter-guitarists Tim and Jamie Monger, who also play accordion and mandolin. **Apr. 6: Ann Arbor Soul Club.** Classic soul music by the local DJ duo of Brad Hales and Robert Wells. **Apr. 7: The Macpodz.** Immensely popular local jam band plays an invigorating mix of R&B, soul, rock, and hard jazz it calls "disco bebop." Opening act is **My Dear Disco**, a local dance septet, formerly known as Toolbox, that plays a blend of techno, funk, and jamming known as nu-jazz. **Apr. 8: Yak Ballz.** Indie hip-hop MC from Queens. Opening acts are the Detroit underground hip-hop ensemble **Blue Le'Goon**, the New Jersey underground hip-hop ensemble **Slow Suicide Service**, the Troy emo-tinged hip-hop duo **Abrasive Method**, the Detroit soul-inflected hip-hop ensemble **Midcoast Most**, and others TBA. **Apr. 10: Mason Jennings.** Postpunk folk-rock troubadour from Minneapolis. See Events. **Apr. 11:** Hip-hop DJs TBA. **Apr. 12: The Satin Peaches.** Commerce, Michigan, rock 'n' roll quartet. **Apr. 13 (7-10 p.m.): Xiu Xiu.** All ages admitted. Experimental indie rock band from San Jose. Opening act is **Sunset Rubdown**. See Events. **Apr. 13: Dante & Deck.** Local hip-hop duo formerly known as Switchjance. Opening acts are **Band B**, a Detroit alt-country band, and **Majestik Legend**, a local hip-hop MC. **Apr. 14: Josh Kelley.** Alternative pop-rock singer-songwriter from Georgia. Opening acts are **Kate Voegele** and **Alexa Wilkinson**. See Events. **Apr. 17: "Showcase Night."** See above. **Apr. 18: Trembling Earth.** Local psychedelic southern-rock band. Opening acts are **Muruga & Free Funk**, a versatile worldbeat jam band led by percussionist Muruga Booker, and **The Browns**. **Apr. 19: Chris Bathgate.** See Old Town. Tonight he celebrates the release of his new CD. Opening acts are **Sycrusher**, the **Alex Belhaj Band**, and **Canada**, a popular local experimental pop-folk septet that features 2 cellists. **Apr. 20: My Dear Disco.** See above. Opening act is **The Exchange Bureau**, a Detroit electro-funk jam band. **Apr. 21: The Bang!** Dance party with this local DJ collective that plays garage and 70s rock. **Apr. 22: Souls of Mischief.** Oakland, California, hip-hop quartet. See Events. **Apr. 24: "Showcase Night."** See above. **Apr. 25: Brother Ali.** Acclaimed Minneapolis hip-hop MC. Opening acts are



Cool Moose Orchestra

High school swing

Let's start by acknowledging the elephant—excuse me, the moose—in the room: the Cool Moose Orchestra is composed entirely of local high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors; they're mostly Community High students, though Huron, Pioneer, and Dexter are also represented. None of the members of CMO is old enough to vote, or to buy a drink at any of the clubs where they play.

High school rock bands are a dime a dozen, but young jazz combos are far less widespread—and CMO's size, a baker's dozen of musicians, makes it rarer still. To say "They play very well . . . for high school

kids," though true, would be damning them with pretty darn faint praise. Their sophisticated soloing and tight ensemble work give the lie to their age. This band swings.

Sure, there have been aspects of CMO that betrayed their youth. They used to wear goofy moose ears on stage, and their bass player painted his instrument pink. No more. Now their show attire is red T-shirts and black jackets, and there's no nonsense on stage. Though they play with the irrepressible energy of the young, there is nothing of the moose-in-the-china-shop quality about their exuberance. They've studied with, and been mentored by, some of our area's finest players and teachers—Vincent York, Community High's Mike Grace, and Jack Wagner and Paul Finkbeiner of the Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts, among others. It's evident in their playing.

number of clever tunes, and he created most of the CMO charts.

The band also includes Galaan Dafa and Micah Nagourney on trumpet, Connor Otto and Quinten Ho on trombone, Eric Weidemeier and Vicky Sheerer on alto sax, Yali Rivlin on tenor, Nick Nelson on baritone, and Jordan Otto on drums.

Catch them while you can, because this incarnation of CMO, which plays the Firefly Club on Tuesday, April 17, is not long for this world. The bulk of the band, including Tucker and band manager Connor Otto, will graduate this spring, though not before releasing a CD to preserve this version for posterity. You can bet there will be many more recordings from CMO alumni in the future. And here's hoping that further manifestations of CMO continue to gallop.

—Sandor Slomovits

Psalm One and **One Be Lo.** See Events. **Apr. 26: Lasalle.** Lansing pop-rock trio. Opening acts are **Wildcatting**, an Ypsilanti metal-rock band featuring former members of Bear vs. Shark, and **The Jehovah's Witness Protection Program**, an acoustic pop-folk band. **Apr. 27: Slum Village.** Detroit hip-hop duo. Opening act is **Black Milk**. See Events. **Apr. 28: Antibalas Afrobeat Orchestra.** Popular New York City Afrobeat dance band. See Events. Opening act is **Krudas Cubanski**. See Events.

Campus Chapel Coffeehouse

1236 Washtenaw Ct. 668-7421

Monthly acoustic showcase in the Campus Chapel basement, 8:30-11 p.m. No cover, no dancing. Free refreshments. April schedule TBA.

Cavern Club

210 S. First St. 913-8890

This downtown club in the Celebration Cellars basement banquet space features live music on Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Also, the complex has 2 street-level clubs, the Millennium Club, which features MTV-style video hits on plasma screens, and Gotham City, which features DJs with house music Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover (includes admission to all 3 clubs) Sat. only, dancing. Age 18 & older admitted. **Every Fri.: Club DJs.** DJs play hip-hop records. **Apr. 7: 50 Amp Fuse.** 70s and 80s classic rock by this Detroit band. **Apr. 14: Killer Flamigos.** Rock 'n' roll covers and originals by this popular,

veteran band from Dearborn. **Apr. 21: 50 Amp Fuse.** See above. **Apr. 28: Killer Flamigos.** See above.

Club Above

215 N. Main 663-7758

This dance club on the top floor of the Heidelberg restaurant features DJs Thurs.-Sun., 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m., and live happy hour bands on Fri., 5-8 p.m. Also, karaoke on Wed., 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover, dancing. Age 21 & older only unless otherwise noted. **Every Thurs.: Electronica, House, & Techno.** With DJ Nate of Deep Blue. **Every Fri.: Latino Night.** DJ Xcess plays salsa, merengue, reggae, and other Latin dance records. Also, salsa lessons, 9-10 p.m. **Every Sat.: "80s Night."** DJ Saladin plays 80s dance music. A fund-raiser for annarboralive.com Internet radio. **Every Sun.: Mexican Night.** With DJ Miguel or a live Mexican band. **Apr. 6: (5:30-8:30 p.m.): FUBAR.** 6-piece band led by Kingpins bassist Randy Tessier and featuring former Map of the World vocalist Sophia Hanifi. Their repertoire is an eclectic mix of originals by Hanifi and Tessier and covers of everyone from the Everly Brothers, the Kinks, and the Yardbirds to Miles Davis, Steve Earle, and U2. The band has a new 4-song minidisk, *Clean House*, an election-year collection that includes 2 originals, a cover of Stephen Stills's 1968 protest classic *For What It's Worth*, and an original setting of Auden's 1939 poem "Refugee Song." **Apr. 13: (5:30-8:30 p.m.): Jim Tate Trio.** A veteran local honky-tonk singer-guitarist with a varied repertoire, Tate is joined by

bassist Chris Goerke and drummer Mark Newbound. **Apr. 20: (5:30-8:30 p.m.): Mike Smith & the Cadillac Cowboys.** Veteran local country band led by singer-guitarist Smith. **Apr. 27 (5:30-8:30 p.m.): Drivin' Sideways.** Veteran local band fueled by vocalist Pontiac Pete Ferguson's alternately soulful and ornery vocals. Their country-based repertoire still features lots of classic honky-tonk, but they also cover everything from early Chuck Berry to Sam & Dave to the Meters. The band's guiding presence seems to be Elvis—including both large chunks of his repertoire and his attitude that any music he did suited him just because he did it. The band also includes guitarist George Bedard, pedal steel guitarist Mark O'Boyle, bassist Chris Goerke, drummer Mark Newbound, and keyboardist Jim King.

Club Bedrocks

2900 Jackson Rd. 665-4444

Lounge in the Best Western Suites. DJs on Fri. & Sat., 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Every Fri.: "Mix & Mingle."** DJs spin old school, R&B, reggae, techno, and hip-hop dance records. **Every Sat.: Latino Night.** DJs play Latin dance music.

Conor O'Neill's

318 S. Main 665-2968

Downtown Irish pub with live music Sun. (7:30-10 p.m.) and Tues.-Thurs. and occasional other nights (9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m.). **Every Sun.: Traditional Irish Session.** All invited to join or listen to an instrumental jam session. Followed at 10 p.m.

by karaoke. **Every Tues.: Jerry Sprague Band.** Roots-rock band led by veteran local singer-guitarist Sprague. **Apr. 4: Grievous Angel.** See Goodnite Gracie. **Apr. 5: Mossy Moran.** Traditional singer from Ireland. **Apr. 11: Johnny & the Fenders.** Traditional Irish ballads and drinking songs by this Detroit band that includes members of the Diggers. **Apr. 12: Michael May & the Messarounds.** Jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by this veteran local quartet, formerly known as Blue Infusion, led by vocalist and blues harpist May. **Apr. 18: Mossy Moran.** See above. **Apr. 19: Grievous Angel.** See above. **Apr. 25: Bruno's Boys.** Traditional Irish songs of drinking and rebellion, accompanied on a wide array of instruments, by this Detroit-area duo. **Apr. 26: Randy Brock Group.** Detroit blues trio.

Crazy Wisdom Tea Room

114 S. Main 665-9468

This tea room above Crazy Wisdom Bookstore features live music occasional Fri. & Sat., 8:30-10:30 p.m. **Apr. 6: Chris Bathgate.** See Old Town. **Apr. 7: Dave Boutette.** Local folk-rock singer-guitarist whose genial songs about the small ups and downs of ordinary life draw on a range of influences from Chuck Berry to Paul Westerberg. He has released 2 CDs, including *Confetti*. **Apr. 13: Lisa Pappas.** Michigan singer-songwriter who sings twangy pop-folk and country originals. **Apr. 14: Annie Capps Trio.** Acoustic trio led by Capps, a local singer-songwriter and electric guitarist who writes thoughtful, distinctively personal, warmly exuberant folk-rock songs that are both musically sophisticated and down-home. She has released 3 CDs, including the recent *Not So Sure*. With her husband, guitarist Rod Capps, and singer-percussionist Christine Schinker. **Apr. 20: The Brakemen.** Roots folk-rock by this Detroit band led by singer-songwriters Jon Milan and Rick Pinkerton. **Apr. 21: Ajit Acharya & Rahul Neuman.** Classical Indian ragas by the duo of tabla player Acharya and sitarist Neuman. **Apr. 27: Markita Moore.** Soulful acoustic folk and rock by this Detroit singer-guitarist. **Apr. 28: Christine and Jon.** Historically accurate renditions of classical American popular songs, ballads, and torch songs by the duo of vocalist Christine Schinker and pianist Jon Milan. They are sometimes joined by members of the Royal Garden Trio, who are featured on the duo's CD, *High Tea in Tin Pan Alley*.

Creekside Grill and Bar

5827 Jackson Rd. 827-2737

The intimate bar area of this restaurant in Scio Township features live music occasional Fri. & Sat., 9 p.m.-midnight. Cover, dancing. **Apr. 1: "3rd Annual Benefit Jackson Spire Scholarship Fund-Raiser."** With Thunderfoot, Drivin' Sideways, The Jim Tate Band, and Boogie-man. See Events. 1-9 p.m. **Apr. 6: Jim Tate & Chris Goerke.** The veteran honky-tonk duo of singer-guitarist Tate and bassist Goerke features a varied repertoire and resonant vocal harmonies. **Apr. 13: The Copycats.** Harmony-driven vintage rock by this local quartet whose repertoire ranges from the Beatles, Dylan, and CCR to Pink Floyd and Jethro Tull. **Apr. 20: Danny Gutowski & Chris Goerke.** The duo of local country singer Gutowski and bassist Goerke. **Apr. 22: II-V-I Orchestra.** Veteran local big band, led by saxophonist David Swain, that plays late-30s swing and 40s R&B. **Apr. 27: Bowditch Brothers.** Local country trio led by singer-guitarist Mike Smith and featuring 2 other members of the Cadillac Cowboys, bassist Gary Munce and pianist and mandolinist Kelly Schmidt.

Dreamland Theater

26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti 657-2337

This downtown Ypsilanti theater, newly relocated from Depot Town, features live music Thurs. & occasional other nights, 8-10 p.m. Cover (usually a donation), no dancing. **Apr. 27: "The Totally Awesome Fest."** Dreamland celebrates its downtown reopening with music, puppetry, and comedy by various local acts. See Events. 7 p.m.-midnight.

The Earle

121 W. Washington 994-0211

Restaurant with live jazz Mon.-Sat., 8-10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Mon.: Rick Burgess.** Solo pianist. **Every Tues.: Duncan McMillan.** Solo pianist. **Every Wed.: Rick Burgess.** Solo pianist. **Every Thurs.: Jake Reichbart.** Solo guitarist. **Every Fri. & Sat.: Rick Burgess Trio.** Jazz ensemble featuring pianist Burgess, drummer Robert Warren, and bassist Russel Tessier.

Elbow Room

6 S. Washington, Ypsilanti 483-6374

This Ypsilanti tavern features live music and/or DJs Mon.-Thurs., 9 p.m.-1 a.m., and Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Also, occasional Sun., 8 p.m.-midnight. Cover, dancing. **Every Mon. (except Apr. 2): "House Night."** With DJ Kriss. **Every Tues.: "Dance Night."** With DJ Conner. **Every Wed.: Open Mike Jam.** All musicians invited. **Every Thurs. (except Apr. 5): "Mofo Karaoke."** With "the standard karaoke playlist crap plus 2,500+ obscure and awesome songs." **Apr. 2: Goes Cube.** Indie punk-rock trio from Brooklyn, New York. Opening act is **The Dead Letters**, a soul-inflected garage punk quintet from Detroit. **Apr. 5: The Reprise.** Ypsilanti indie pop quartet. Opening acts are **The Fifty**, a Detroit indie powerpop band, and **Vince Dynamic**, an indie jazz-pop band from Essexville, Michigan. **Apr. 6: Lord of the Yum Yum.** The stage name of Chicago musician Paul Velat, who, performing in a blue ruffle tuxedo, reshapes familiar tunes with classical and jazz themes, singing them to electronic accompaniment in a guttural scat vocal style that occasionally morphs into throat singing. Opening acts are the Detroit synth pop duo **The Debt**, the local progressive trio-hop band **Aleph 1**, and **Patrick Elkins**, an Ypsilanti singer-songwriter whose shows also include performance art, poetry, and finger-puppetry. Also, another band TBA. **Apr. 7: The Ne'er Do Wells.** Local folk-rock band. Opening acts are the veteran Detroit rock 'n' roll band **Chrome Mali**, the local futuristic retro-rock quartet **The Ultrasounds**, and **Two Roads to Mexico**, a melodic emocore band from Ypsilanti formerly known as Dropjaw. **Apr. 11: Red Her- ring.** East Lansing reggae-rock trio. Opening act is **Jenn's Apartment**, a Holt, Michigan, indie post-punk powerpop quartet. **Apr. 13: Porchsleeper.** Local hillbilly-punk band. Opening acts are **Chris Bathgate** (see Old Town), local pop-rock octet **The New Green**, and the Chicago indie pop-rock band **Real Lunch**. **Apr. 14: The Royal Affairs.** Detroit garage-rock band. Opening acts are the Detroit R&B-inflected pop-punk quartet band **Freer**, the local rock 'n' roll band **Jealous Type**, and **JBoozer**, a rock 'n' roll jam band from St. Louis fronted by Boozer, who (a la Hasil Adkins) sings while playing guitar with his hands and drums with his feet. **Apr. 17: Two Roads to Mexico.** See above. Opening acts are **The 77s**, an Ypsilanti band formerly known as Los Drogas that plays loud, raucous, melodic, bluesy, surf-guitar rockabilly, and **El Dorado**, a Memphis band whose music blends punk, blues, and disco house. **Apr. 18: Umbrella Cloud.** Royal Oak indie singer-songwriter. Opening act is **Ish and Artwork**, the stage name of experimental ambient guitarist Kyle Thornhill. **Apr. 20: The Mighty Narwhale.** Grand Rapids pop septet. Opening acts are Ypsilanti folk-style indie singer-songwriter **Annie Palmer**, the classy Detroit Americana quartet **American Mars**, and the Cleveland postpunk pop-folk quartet **The Dreadful Yawns**. **Apr. 21: Johnny No-Stars.** Local psychedelic hard-rock quintet. Opening acts are the local psychedelic-blues garage trio **Sik Sik Nation**, the Detroit rock quartet **The Hotness**, and **The Decks**, an indie garage quartet from Grosse Pointe. **Apr. 27: Cash O'Riley & the Downright Daddies.** Veteran Jackson rockabilly and cowpunk band. Opening acts are the Detroit indie rock band **Desolation Angels**, and **Horse Cave Trio**, a local group led by veteran singer-bassist Ron Devore that plays blues-fueled rockabilly. **Apr. 28: The Power Grind Experiment.** All ages admitted. With the Ypsilanti hardcore band **Minus 9**, the Brighton experimental grindcore band **Maxx Rebo**, the East Lansing punk-metal band **My Friend Rudra**, the Eastpointe grindcore band **The Severnaya Complex**, the mid-Michigan death metal band **The Yellow Sign**, and the Farwell, Michigan, screamo band **Rejilem**. **Apr. 28: Todd Deatherage & Friends.** Recently transplanted to Ann Arbor from New York City, Deatherage is a country-rock singer-songwriter originally from Dallas whom the *Village Voice* dubbed a "honky-tonk Elliott Smith." Opening acts are the Cleveland male-female trip-rock duo **Mr. Gnome**, the Mount Pleasant ambient folk-rock sextet **Camerata**, and the local ska and 80s-style pop quintet **Hullabaloo**.

The Firefly Club

207 S. Ashley 665-9090

Jazz and blues club that was named Best Metro Detroit Jazz Club by the *Detroit Free Press*. Live jazz Mon., occasional Tues., Wed., & Thurs., 8 p.m.-midnight; Fri. & Sat., 9 p.m.-1 a.m.; and Sun., 8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Also, happy-hour music Thurs., Fri., & Sun., 5-8 p.m. Sun. jazz brunch, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Cover (unless otherwise noted), dancing. **Every Fri. (5:30-8 p.m.): Easy Street Swingtet.** Dixieland and swing by this local ensemble led by saxophonist and trumpeter Paul Klingner. **Every Sun. (5-**

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Music at Nightspots continued

8 p.m.): **Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings**. This local 10-piece big band is one of the few to specialize in the old-time big-band music of the late 20s and early 30s associated with Jelly Roll Morton and King Oliver. Arrangements by the renowned early-jazz pianist James Dapogny and tubaist Chris Smith. The rest of the lineup includes 3 saxophonists/clarinetists, 2 trumpeters, a trombonist, a guitarist/banjo player, and a drummer. **Every Sun.: "Elevation."** Funk and hip-hop by DJ Graffiti and other DJs TBA. Also, an open mike session. **Every Mon.: Paul Keller Orchestra**. Award-winning 15-piece big band, formerly known as the Bird of Paradise Orchestra, led by bassist Keller and featuring vocalist (and Firefly Club owner) Susan Chastain. **Every Wed.** (except Apr. 4): **Paul Keller Ensemble**. High-energy mainstream jazz by this ensemble led by bassist Keller that features 3 horns. **Every Thurs.: Los Gatos**. Mambo and cha-cha by this local Latin jazz band that specializes in the music of Cal Tjader, the late San Francisco vibes player who ignited the 50s mambo craze. Led by drummer Pete Siers, the group also includes vibes player Cary Kocher, bassist Kurt Krahnke, pianist Brian DiBlassio, and percussionist Jonathan Ovalle. Preceded at 7 p.m. by Latin dance lessons (\$5 includes cover for the band). **Apr. 4: The Lindenberg High School Big Band**. 26-member big band from Saline's sister city in Germany. See Events. **Apr. 6: Bob Dorrough**. 83-year-old jazz singer-pianist. See Events. 9 & 11 p.m. **Apr. 7: Joe Summers Gypsy Jazz Trio**. This local trio led by guitar virtuoso Summers plays the music of Django Reinhardt, Charlie Christian, and Lenny Breau. With guitarist Chris Moyer and bassist Dave Sharp. Tonight the band celebrates the release of a new CD—and bassist Sharp's birthday. **Apr. 10: Caleb Curtis Sextet**. Jazz ensemble led by saxophonist Curtis, a Community High grad who is currently an MSU music student. **Apr. 13: Susan Chastain Quartet**. Jazz ensemble led by vocalist (and Firefly Club owner) Chastain. **Apr. 14: Jim Cooper Quartet**. Jazz ensemble led by Grand Rapids vibraphonist Cooper. **Apr. 17: The Cool Moose Orchestra**. See review, p. 108. Ensemble of local middle and high school jazz musicians. **Apr. 20: Los Gatos**. See above. Tonight the band celebrates the release of its new CD. **Apr. 21: Tumbao Bravo**. Cuban jazz quintet led by local saxophonist and flutist Paul VornHagen and percussionist Alberto Nacif. With pianist Sven Anderson, bassist John Barron, and Javier Barrios on timbales. **Apr. 27: Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings**. See above. **Apr. 24: Tad Weed Freedom Ensemble**. Progressive to mainstream jazz by an all-star ensemble led by this highly regarded pianist, a Jackson, Michigan, native. With saxophonist Andrew Bishop, Detroit bassist Tim Flood, and Los Gatos drummer Pete Siers. **Apr. 28: Steve Richko Trio**. Jazz ensemble led by the dynamic young Detroit pianist Richko.

Goodnite Gracie

301 W. Huron 623-2070
Martini and cigar bar below Live at PJ's lounge. Live jazz Wed.-Sat., 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m. **Every Tues.: "Groove Tuesday."** DJ Mechial White plays house and pop dance records. **Every Wed.: Lucas Paul Band**. Local quartet led by pop-rock singer-songwriter Paul. **Every Fri.: Lester Blues**. Local guitar-based blues band. **Apr. 5: Grievous Angel**. Detroit-area country-rock band that covers everyone from Hank Williams to the Grateful Dead and Metallica. **Apr. 7: Doug Demming & the Jeweltunes**. West Coast swing blues by this Detroit-area band led by singer-guitarist Demming. **Apr. 12: SG Ensemble**. Local jazz ensemble fronted by vocalists Sarah Grogan and Sara Grieshaber. **Apr. 14: The Terraplanes**. Local band led by singer-guitarist Jerry Mack that plays a mix of house-rocking blues, uptown swing, soulful R&B, and roots rock. The band has a CD, *Well Tuned*. With guitarist Dave Fero, blues harpist and keyboardist Phil Ryski, saxophonist Willie Rankin, bassist Wendy Hayes, and drummer Lenny Gilpatrick. **Apr. 19: Nick Strange Trio**. Popular local jazz-rock fusion dance band whose music draws variously on blues, reggae, calypso, and other idioms. **Apr. 21 & 26: Michael May & the Messarounds**. See Conor O'Neill's. **Apr. 28: Chef Chris & the Blue Plate Specials**. Blues quartet led by vocalist and blues harpist Chef Chris Sirvinskis.

Guy Hollerin's

3600 Plymouth Rd. 769-9800
The restaurant in the North Campus Holiday Inn features country bands on Fri. and a DJ on Sat., 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Every Fri.: "Latin Night."** DJ Ronnie Lucas spins salsa, bachata,

merengue, reggaeton, and cumbaya dance records. **Every Sat.: "Old School."** DJ Royce plays jazz and Motown dance records.

The Habitat Ultralounge

3050 Jackson Rd. 665-3636
The lounge at Weber's Inn features dance bands Tues.-Thurs., 8:45 p.m.-12:30 a.m., and Fri. & Sat., 8:45 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Also, solo piano by **Tim Knapp** (Tues.-Thurs., Sat., & Sun.) and **Adam Riccinto** (Fri.), 6-8:45 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Mon.: "Monday Groove."** With DJ Mechial White. 7 p.m.-midnight. **Apr. 3-5: Al Hill Band**. Blues, R&B, and soul standards, originals, and obscurities by this local quartet led by Hill's wailing vocals and pumping piano. **Apr. 6 & 7: Sun Messengers**. Popular, versatile 10-piece ensemble from Detroit that plays everything from Latin and African dance music to blues and rock. **Apr. 10-12: The Candidates**. East Lansing dance band. **Apr. 13 & 14: Bugs Beddow Band**. Versatile horn-driven R&B, boogie-rock, blues, and jazz ensemble led by veteran Detroit trombonist Beddow. **Apr. 17-21: Soulstice**. Hard-driving dance band from East Lansing. **Apr. 24-26: Al Hill Band**. See above. **Apr. 27 & 28: Joyride**. Popular Flint dance band.

The Halfass

Church St. entrance to East Quad 764-8558

Informal student-dominated cafe, formerly known as the Halfway Inn. Occasional live music, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Apr. 7: The Bang!** See Blind Pig. **Apr. 14: SSM**. Detroit psychedelic industrial-punk trio that includes members of the Hentchmen, the Sights, and the Cyril Lords. Opening acts are the Detroit rock band **The Terrible Twos**, the local rock trio **Idol and the Whip**, and the Detroit rock band **The Distinctions**.

Leonardo's

2101 Bonisteel Blvd. 764-7544
Performance area in the food court at Pierpont Commons on the U-M North Campus. Dancing, no cover. **Apr. 12: Jazz Jam Session**. All jazz musicians invited. 8-10 p.m.

Live at PJ's

102 S. First St. 623-1443
This jazz lounge features live music Wed., 9 p.m.-2 a.m.; Thurs., 10:30 p.m.-2 a.m.; and Fri. & Sat., 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Every Wed. & Thurs.: Laith Al-Saadi**. An eclectic mix of jazz, blues, R&B, Motown, and pop, including many originals, by a trio led by this local singer-guitarist. **Every Sat.: "Club Night."** Retro, Top 40, and hip-hop dance party with DJ Mechial White. **Apr. 3: DJ Graffiti**. Local DJ who plays funk and hip-hop dance records. **Apr. 6: A.G.B.** Local trio that plays a high-energy mix of funk, rock, and jam. **Apr. 13: Laith Al-Saadi**. See above. **Apr. 15: "The Big Bang."** Dancing to salsa music. **Apr. 17: DJ Graffiti**. See above. **Apr. 20: Good Gravy**. R&B band from Bloomfield Hills. **Apr. 24: "Ace of Spades Records Presents."** Performances by local bands TBA. **Apr. 27: Marcus Collins Project**. Soulful R&B with a hip-hop accent by this Detroit band that includes 4 former members of Funktelligence.

Melange Subterranean Bistro

314 S. Main 222-0202
The lounge in this downtown restaurant features live music or DJs Wed.-Sat., 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Wed.: "House & Funk."** With DJ Jacob Alexander. **Every Thurs.: Lucas Paul Band**. See Goodnite Gracie. **Apr. 6: Al Hill Band**. See Habitat. **Apr. 7: BusStop**. Smart, playful rock 'n' roll with a funky R&B edge by this Royal Oak band fronted by Julia Ingalls whose repertoire ranges from vintage Stevie Wonder and Steely Dan to Sheryl Crow, along with some originals. **Apr. 13: Odessa Harris Trio**. This dynamic Detroit vocalist, who sings bluesy jazz in the style of Dinah Washington, is backed by a jazz trio. **Apr. 14: Kris K Band**. Local quartet led by singer-guitarist Kris Kurzawa that plays jazz, soul, and avant-funk covers and originals. **Apr. 20: Relativity**. Detroit jazz ensemble led by bassist Damon Warmack. **Apr. 21: Kris K Band**. See above. **Apr. 27: Shelby Brown**. Detroit jazz quartet led by saxophonist Brown. **Apr. 28: Relativity**. See above.

The Necto

516 E. Liberty 994-5436
This popular dance club features local and national DJs 4 nights a week, Mon. & Thurs.-Sat., 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover (Thurs.-Sat. after 10 p.m. only), dancing.

Every Sun.: "Vision Sunday." Guest DJs spin house and techno records. **Every Mon.: "Factory."** DJ Jinx spins industrial, goth, and synth pop records. **Every Thurs.: "College Night."** DJ Hardy spins Top 40 and hip-hop records. **Every Fri.: "Pride."** With DJ Timmy D spinning high-energy dance tunes in the main room and, in the downstairs Red Room, DJ Mark playing retro music videos and DJ John G spinning Top 40 records. **Every Sat.: "Frequency."** In the main room DJ Binzo plays Top 40 hip-hop and dance music, and in the Red Room a variety of Top 40 music videos.

Old Town

122 W. Liberty 662-9291
This downtown corner bar features live music Sun. and occasional other nights, 8-10 p.m. No dancing, no cover. The performers are usually accompanied by various drop-in friends. **Apr. 1: Chris Buhalis**. Popular local singer-songwriter who sings engaging, fresh-minded folk-country songs about ordinary American life. **Apr. 8: Danny Kline**. Acoustic performance by this singer-songwriter and guitarist who is the leader of the classy local country quartet Delta 88. **Apr. 15: Chris Bathgate**. Local singer-songwriter who writes heartfelt, poetic story songs in a variety of moods. **Apr. 22: Jay Stielstra**. Folk-country originals by this highly regarded veteran local singer-songwriter. **Apr. 29: Joe Summers Gypsy Jazz Trio**. See the Firefly Club.

Oz

210 S. Fifth Ave. 222-4770
Nightclub features DJs or live music Tues. & Wed., 8 p.m.-2 a.m.; Thurs.-Sat., 8 p.m.-4 a.m.; and occasional Sun., 6 p.m.-midnight. Cover after 11 p.m., dancing. **Every Fri.: International Night**. Arabic, Indian, and hip-hop music with DJ Fares. Also, a belly dancing show at midnight. **Every Sat.: Hip-Hop and Old Skool**. With DJ Fares.

Oz's Music Environment

1920 Packard 662-8283
This storefront next to Oz's music store features live music Tues., Thurs., & occasional other nights, 7:30-9:30 p.m. (unless otherwise noted). Cover, no dancing. **Apr. 3: "Songwriters Open Mike."** All songwriters invited. Hosted by Jim Novak. **Apr. 10: "Anything Goes Open Stage."** All musicians invited. Hosted by Laura MacKimmie. **Apr. 13: "Local Color Music Showcase."** Performers TBA. **Apr. 17: "Open Stage Jam with Oz."** All acoustic musicians invited. Hosted by Steve Osburn. **Apr. 24: "AASC Blues Highway 101."** Mickey Richard and Sue Nordman host a mostly acoustic blues jam session. All musicians invited. **Apr. 27: "Local Color Music Showcase."** See above.

The Quarter Bistro

300 S. Maple 929-9200
This west-side restaurant features live music Thurs.-Sat., 7-10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Fri.: The Groove-Matist**. Retro, Top 40, and hip-hop dance party with DJ Mechial White. **Every Sat.: Mike Moore**. Jazz guitarist. Remainder of April schedule TBA. **Apr. 5 & 12: Steven Springer**. Roots-rock, reggae, dancehall, and calypso by this former Trinidad Tripoli Steel Band singer-guitarist, winner of 4 consecutive Detroit Music Awards for Best Guitar Player. **Apr. 19 & 26: John E. Lawrence**. This veteran local jazz guitarist is joined by saxophonist Don White.

Rick's American Cafe

611 Church 996-2747
This campus-area club features DJs Mon. & Wed.-Sat., 10 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Large dance floor. Dancing, cover. **Every Mon.: DJ Fro**. DJ spins dance records. **Every Wed.: DJ Big Daddie**. DJ spins dance records. **Every Thurs.: "Jammin' DJs."** DJs TBA play dance music. **Every Fri. & Sat.: DJ Big Daddie**. See above.

Rush Street

314 S. Main 913-0330
The bar in this new downtown restaurant features DJs Thurs. and live music Sat., 10 p.m.-1:30 a.m. **Every Thurs.: Mechial White**. DJ plays an assortment of contemporary music. **Every Sat.: Live music TBA.**

Studio 4

313 S. Fourth Ave. 302-3687
This dinner club features DJs Sat., 9 p.m.-2 a.m., playing a wide variety of dance music. Cover, dancing. Age 21 & older only. **Every Sat.: "Hip-Hop**

and House Night." With DJ Jason "J Smooth" Doliveck.

Tap Room

201 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti 482-5320
This popular downtown Ypsilanti tavern hosts Monday open mikes, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Dancing, no cover.

Tap Room Annex

205 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti 487-5544
This tavern next door to the Tap Room features live acoustic music Mon., Thurs. & Sat., 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m.; & Fri., 9-11 p.m. No dancing, cover (Sat. only). **Every Mon.: Acoustic Open Mike**. Hosted by the Martindales singer-guitarist Brian Brickley. **Every Thurs.: Electric Open Mike**. Hosted by **The Martindales**, a local band led by singer-guitarist Brian Brickley that plays blues and rock covers and originals. All bands invited. **Apr. 4: "Spencer Michaud Presents."** This local singer-songwriter and acoustic guitarist is joined by guest musicians each week. Tonight's guests are **Chris Bathgate** (see Old Town) and **Misty Lyn**, a local country-pop singer-songwriter. **Apr. 6: John Latini & Friends**. Acoustic rock-based originals by this veteran local rock 'n' roll singer-songwriter, who is joined by different guest musicians each week. Tonight's guests are singer-songwriter **Angela Prudhomme** and **Dan Orcutt**, a veteran local singer-songwriter best known through his blues-rock alter ego Nick Strange. **Apr. 7: Chris Canas & the Blues Revolution**. Detroit blues band fronted by Canas, a young blues vocalist and virtuoso guitarist. **Apr. 11: "Spencer Michaud Presents."** See above. Tonight's guests TBA. **Apr. 13: John Latini & Friends**. See above. Tonight's guests are singer-songwriters **Pale Dave**, a local folk-rock singer-songwriter, and **Lesley-Anne Graham**, a Detroit-area pop-folk singer-songwriter. **Apr. 14: Tracy Mack**. Acoustic folk-rock singer-songwriter. Opening act is **Stolen Moments**, a local all-female acoustic trio that plays jazz, blues, and R&B standards. **Apr. 18: "Spencer Michaud Presents."** See above. Tonight's guests TBA. **Apr. 20: John Latini & Friends**. See above. Tonight's guests are singer-songwriters **Dave Boutette** (see Crazy Wisdom) and **Cris McGorey**. **Apr. 21: The Martindales**. See above. **Apr. 25: "Spencer Michaud Presents."** See above. Tonight's guests TBA. **Apr. 27: John Latini & Friends**. See above. Tonight's guests are singer-songwriters **Annie Capps** (see Crazy Wisdom) and **Jo Serrapere**, a highly regarded local singer-songwriter known for her spare, haunting ballads and blues and her sinewy, commanding vocals. **Apr. 28: Orpheum Bell**. Local country-folk swing sextet. Opening act is **Matt Jones**, a local pop-folk singer-songwriter.

TC's Speakeasy

207 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti 483-4470
This downtown Ypsilanti tavern features a jam session on Mon., karaoke on Tues., DJs on Wed., and dance bands Thurs.-Sat., 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m. Also, poker tournament, Sun., 7 & 10 p.m. Dancing, no cover unless otherwise noted. **Every Fri. (6-9 p.m.): Rob Moses**. Local solo pianist. **Every Sun.: Local Music Night**. Bands TBA. **Every Mon.: Acoustic & Spoken Word Open Mike**. All acoustic musicians and wordslingers invited. Hosted by local singer-songwriter Jesse Passage. **Apr. 6: Spiral Crush**. Detroit rock band. **Apr. 7: The Off Ramps**. Plymouth postpunk power-pop band. Opening acts are **Bedford Drive**, a local indie rock band, and **Ange Smiley**, an acoustic folk-rock singer-songwriter from Flint. **Apr. 13: The Howling Diablos**. Wild-humored Detroit blues and rock 'n' roll band. Opening act is **Treetown Underground**, a local acoustic roots-music jam band. **Apr. 14: Disregarded**. Self-styled "dirt-hop" quartet from Oakville whose music blends American roots music with urban rap, gospel-tinged choruses, and rock 'n' roll energy. Opening acts are Detroit hip-hop MC **Chief**, the Detroit alternative rock band **Prospect**, and **DJ Chill Will**. **Apr. 20: Back Forty**. Local acoustic string quartet that plays twangy roots-folk music fused with elements of jazz and rock. Opening act is **Ultraviolet Hippopotamus**, a progressive-funk jam band from Big Rapids. **Apr. 21: Soot**. Local heavy-funk rock quartet. Opening act is **Social Fever**, a Detroit classic rock band. **Apr. 27: Deep Space Six**. Popular local Grateful Dead cover band. **Apr. 28: Paul's Big Radio**. Roots country-pop band led by local singer-songwriter Paul Lippens. Opening acts are the EMU student alternative-rock band **Big Slik** and the Ypsilanti punk-bluegrass septet **Black Jake & the Carnies**.

Personals

Personals Key

A=Asian	J=Jewish
B=Black	L=Letters
C=Christian	LTR=Long Term Relationship
D=Divorced	M=Male
F=Female	ND=Non drinker
G=Gay	NS=Non smoker
H=Hispanic	P=Phone Calls
H/WP=Height & Weight Proportionate	P=Professional
ISO=In Search Of	S=Single
	W=White

Loving, caring, attractive, 5'6"/125-lb. Asian lady, young-looking 60+, loves music, movies, travel, healthy living, cooking, metaphysics, ISO kind, honest, NS, ND SWM/SAM, 65-75, LTR. #5678

Attractive brunette W, widow, youthful 60s, NS, Italian/American with many interests, ISO relationship/companionship with SWM, age 58-70. #5656

Crunching leaves, watching snowflakes, picking tulips, picnicking by the river. SWPF, late 50s, ISO SWPM to share delights of the seasons and more. #5648

Pretty nature lover, 5'7", 132 lbs., long curly hair, blue eyes. Into yoga, music, health, laughing, and more. Loyal, honest, and giving. ISO the same, 46-53. #5630

DWM, 54, 5'9", 150 lbs., no children, Ph.D. scientist/farmer in conservation/ecology. ISO woman scientist for rural life, international travel, romance. #4486

Educated, fit DWPM loves dancing, the outdoors, the symphony. ISO thin, elegant woman, 39-47, who is positive on relationships. #3031

Friendships

The Classifieds deadline for the May issue is April 10.

PERSONAL CALL

(900) 226-8978
18 or older. Touch-Tone phone.
\$1.95/min.

Women Seeking Women

The Classifieds deadline for the May issue is April 10.

PERSONAL CALL

(900) 226-8978
18 or older. Touch-Tone phone.
\$1.95/min.

Men Seeking Men

The Classifieds deadline for the May issue is April 10.

PERSONAL CALL

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18 or older. Touch-Tone phone.
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General Personals

The Classifieds deadline for the May issue is April 10.

ANN ARBOR SKI CLUB

You don't have to ski to be a member! The AASC is a "4 season" social and sports club for singles & couples 21/over from A2 and surrounding communities. Established organization averaging 400 members! Upcoming events: 4/5 Last Meeting/Aloha Party at Cobblestone Farm; 4/20 Night Out on the Town; and 4/28 Beer & Wine Tasting Party. CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPCOMING SPRING AND SUMMER SPORTS (SOFTBALL, GOLF, BIKING, TENNIS). For more information on events, including sign-up procedures, consult the club hotline, (734) 786-2237, or www.a2skiclub.org.

Men Seeking Women

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PERSONAL CALL

(900) 226-8978
18 or older. Touch-Tone phone.
\$1.95/min.

Time for fun! NYC native with Midwestern heart, 50s, Consultant/liberal talk show host. Great kisser. ISO happy, thin/average contemporary woman with a great smile. #5687

SWM, 40-something, musician, vegetarian, offers inner wealth, wisdom, genuine care and love to similar kindhearted, non-yuppie, ageless W for friends first. #5682

DWM, 59, 5'7", ISO good-looking woman, 120-140 lbs., SWF, 45-55, LTR, NS. Loves movies and motorcycle trips. Loves being spoiled. #5679

Bright, bearded, boyish, monogamous SWM, 59, professional, fond of food, film, cats, chats, cuddling, walks, seeks SF for long-term romance, travel, fun. #5674

Time for a change? SWPM, 49, 5'8", fit, introspective, with no dependents, seeking fit SWPF, 35-50, who is flexible, fun, and curious. #5675

DWM, 77, 5'8", 150 lbs., handsome. Enjoys dance, travel, cards, and walks. NS, ND, emotionally and financially fit, from large family. Seeks LTR. #5665

21 things you want in a lover—the song describes me well. SWM, 46, healthy, happy, and a Green Builder. Hope to meet a fun, active SF to share life with. #5655

One-woman SWM, 45, seeks resilient, indoor/outdoor, independent/dependent, creative, fun, nontypical female. Warning: I have a son. #5649

SWM, physically fit, NS, intelligent, honest, accommodating. Enjoys books, movies, travel. ISO similar SWF, compatible, attractive, approximately 45-60. #2918

Women Seeking Men

The Classifieds deadline for the May issue is April 10.

PERSONAL CALL

(900) 226-8978
18 or older. Touch-Tone phone.
\$1.95/min.

SWPF, fit, good-looking, well educated, sane, reads widely (mostly NF, lately art history), enjoys the outdoors, museums, early/classical music, blues guitar; singer/songwriters not so much. Left of center; shocked, not shrill. Cracked up at Borat; can quote from Dodgeball. Idly seeking SM, late-30s to mid-50s, literate jock, nice manners, likes his work. #5688

DWCF, 53, NS, with everything but the guy! Happy with my life, ISO the right man to share it with. ISO D/S, WCM, 40s to 50s, NS. Enjoy simple pleasures, simple lifestyle. #5680

Like-minded SM voter wanted. YEA: honesty, humor, 68-78, travel, culture, outdoors, OSU, risks. NAY: immaturity, baggage, dependency, secrets, frowns, impatience. #5681

Chuckles, snickers, and sweet treats await romantic, fun-loving, intelligent, kind-hearted SWPM who enjoys dark-chocolate-covered strawberries and Milky Ways. #5686

Slender, fit, smart, liberal, educated, good woman ISO a very good man, 45-55. #5624

Highly educated, foreign-born American, semiretired, SWF, 5'2", NS, ND, in her 60s, ISO mentally and emotionally healthy good friend, gentleman, 65+. #5668

Exotic romantic flower seeks gentle gardener. Look between the weeds, discover a hybrid of creativity, a blossom of sun. SWPF, 49, happy, healthy humorist ISO of a variegated species for trellis climbing, meadow roaming, and love. #5683

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Classifieds

Employment

The Classifieds deadline for the May issue is April 10.

Work from home, \$500-\$1,000 daily, returning phone calls.
No selling. No boss. 1-800-940-7178.

For Sale

The Classifieds deadline for the May issue is April 10.

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The Classifieds deadline for the May issue is April 10.

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Lessons & Workshops

The Classifieds deadline for the May issue is April 10.

ANN ARBOR AREA PIANO TEACHERS GUILD for referrals to qualified, professional piano teachers.
All levels and ages, 665-5346.

PIANO LESSONS, ALL AGES

Prof. piano teacher, U-M Music School grad. Member of Piano Teachers Guild. Convenient west-side location. Mary Ann McCulloch, (734) 769-7646. Email mcpianolady@aol.com.

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PIANO LESSONS—Prof. musician on west side. U-M School of Music grad degree. Reasonable fee and flexible arrangements. Marian Patin, 761-7384.

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Miscellaneous

The Classifieds deadline for the May issue is April 10.

Climate Control Indoor Storage
490 S. Maple, Ann Arbor. Next to Kroger. 662-5262. www.ccindoorstorage.com.

ISPY CONTEST

Can you identify the glimpse of Ann Arbor in the photo on p. 131? If you can, you could win a copy of Jonathan Marwil's *A History of Ann Arbor*. One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, April 10. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, AA 48104. Fax: 769-4950; email: backpage@aaobserver.com (include address and phone number and put Fake Ad or I Spy in the subject line).

Services

The Classifieds deadline for the May issue is April 10.

COMPUTER SUPPORT
Setup & support, home & small business. Call Tom, (734) 662-3537 or 929-0875.

Accurate Psychic/Channel/Medium: Personal and phone readings. Parties, events, gift certificates. Call Nanci Rose Gerler, Crystal Clear Expressions, (734) 996-8799.

★ Construction Debris—Recycled ★
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Business Services

The Classifieds deadline for the May issue is April 10.

Rose's Good Company
Serving Michigan Prison Re-entry Initiative. MPRI needs your help! Volunteers, fund-raisers, office help, transporters. Interested? Call Rose Martin today at Rose's Good Company, (734) 604-5394.

Chair seats replaced—Chair caning, rush, & cord. Call for quote: (734) 323-5148.

Health

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Ann Arbor Immaculate condition with sophisticated style! 5 bedroom, 2.5 bath home with 1st floor study and master suite, formal living and dining. Viewout basement. Premium wooded lot. \$549,900. A. Edward Ridha 734-645-3110, 734-669-5920. #2703098



Ann Arbor Move into this 2-story home, styled for timeless appeal. Golf course views enhance family room with soaring windows and fireplace. Cherry and Corian kitchen. Walkout. \$550,000. Nancy L. Bahr 734-645-2598, 734-669-5952. #2701512



Ann Arbor 2855 Gladstone. New construction. Architecturally designed 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath, with 1st floor master, cherry hardwood, gourmet kitchen. Priced below appraisal. \$569,000. Elizabeth Brien 734-645-4444, 734-669-5989. #2701654



Ann Arbor Perfect home for a family, prime cul-de-sac setting. 4 bedrooms + bonus room, 2.5 baths. 2-story foyer and family room. Finished lower level, wet bar, walk out to patio. \$569,000. Nancy Chenevey 734-645-4414, 734-669-5962. #2701881



Gregory 7550 Noah's Landing. Rare 2.56 acres with 215 ft. of frontage on beautiful North Lake. Private. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath ranch with sunroom. Out building, dock, gorgeous views! \$575,000. Elizabeth Brien 734-645-4444, 734-669-5989. #2617505



Ann Arbor Walk to the Arboretum from this gracious 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath colonial. Every luxury feature you would desire, all on a private cul-de-sac. Amazing outdoor space. \$575,000. Susan Niethammer 734-646-6055, 734-669-5995. #2701741



Saline Warm and inviting 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath home in the Arboretum. Wood floors, 2-story family room, granite counters, beautiful view of woods. Completely finished walk-out lower level. \$580,000. Sheila Shulman 734-996-3823, 734-669-5852. #2701152



Dexter Custom, all-brick home with 4 bedrooms, 5 baths, 4,603 sq. ft. (finished), that includes 1,050 sq. ft. in lower level with daylight windows. Granite counters, cherry cabinets, SS appliances. \$599,900. Fran Jones 734-994-6505, 734-669-5925. #2701279



Chelsea Waterfront! Stunning 2-story contemporary home with 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, and walkout lower level! 1st floor master, beautiful architecture, private deck, amazing views. \$639,000. Richard Taylor 734-223-5656, 734-433-2601. #2614243



Plymouth Exceptional setting! Landscaped 2 acres on private court. 3,370 sq. ft., 1st floor master, spacious kitchen with cherry cabinets, granite counters, tall windows, full lower level. \$645,000. Shiao Ling Chu 734-604-7000, 734-669-5831. #2615867



Hamburg 100 ft. of Zukey Lake frontage, with sandy beach. 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, rebuilt interior, large kitchen, new cabinets, massive great room with loft. Unsurpassed views. 3-car garage. \$650,000. Matthew Phillips 734-320-1811, 734-669-5976. #2701715



Ann Arbor Vita custom built home with 3,694 sq. ft., 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths on .63 acres. 3-season porch, wood floors, large custom kitchen with granite and stainless. Bonus room. Sprinkler system. \$659,000. Lisa Stelter 734-645-7909, 734-669-5959. #2700640



Ann Arbor Striking 2 bedroom, 3 bath unit in "like new" condition. 1st floor master suite, 2 studies with built-ins, atrium, several skylights, many upgrades plus more! \$665,000. Nicki Noel 734-544-5919, 734-669-5835. #2700321



Ann Arbor Beautifully updated home on large, treed lot. Inviting living room with hardwood floors, marble surround fireplace, adjacent large, sun-filled dining room. \$699,000. Rosemary Blackman 734-429-2372, 734-669-5968. #2702135



Manchester Former home of Gov. John Swainson. Magnificent Victorian with 4-5 bedrooms, au-pair apartment, new pole barn. (Also available with 15 acres for \$595,000 or 40 ac for \$750,000). \$899,000. Deborah Engelbert 734-368-3683, 734-433-2183. #2700878



Ann Arbor Executive home on 8.4 acres only minutes from Ann Arbor. Horses allowed. Custom built by Landau with extensive moldings and trims. \$1,495,000. Pat Durston 734-260-9247, 734-669-5981. #2701256

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On the Cover: This spectacular 1,770-sq.-ft. Woodland Townhome at Woodland Mews, Ann Arbor's largest condominium conversion project, features 2 bedrooms and 2½ baths plus a fully furnished walk-out basement with an additional family room and half bath. Other amenities include an attached garage, on-site concierge service, a fully redesigned clubhouse, a fitness facility, and a spa. Also pool and pond. From \$234,000. Dana Miles or Carol Eugenio, Woodland Mews. (734) 761-2400.

Cover photo by J. Adrian Wylie

Advertisers

Balmoral Park Condominiums	121
Martin Bouma	119
Elizabeth Brien—Charles Reinhart	121
Matt Dejanovich—Real Estate One	122, 123, 124
Linda Forster—	
Prudential Snyder & Company, Realtors	121
The Gallery—The Concannon Company	127
Glenda Gerbstadt—	
Coldwell Banker Schweitzer	121
National City Mortgage	124
The Polo Fields	120
Real Estate One	125
Charles Reinhart	118
United Bank & Trust	127
The Village	124
West Towne Condominiums—The	
Concannon Company	127
Woodland Mews	128
Real Estate Map	126

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Ann Arbor 10 Geddes Heights. Distinctive 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath home in the heart of AA. Light-filled, wood floors, updated gourmet kitchen, 3-season porch, stunning gardens. \$640,000.

Ann Arbor 3964 Delhi Glen Lane. Building site in the Delhi Glen neighborhood. Unequaled, private site tucked in a mature woodland glen. Built by Christian Tennant. \$390,000. #2616553

Ann Arbor 1711 Spring Mill Lane. Gorgeous, over-the-top custom 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath priced way under cost. 3,250 sq. ft. + 1,500 sq. ft. in walkout. Tons of upgrades, Pella windows. Landscaped. \$489,900. #2701831

Dexter 3802 Preserve. Immaculate, stunning, custom 6 bedroom, 4.5 bath with great views of lake and valley. 4,670 sq. ft. + screened porch, cherry kitchen with Wolf appliances, finished walkout. \$769,000. #2702210

Ann Arbor 915 Brooks. Old Ann Arbor 2 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath home has 3-season porch and front porch looking out on gardens, situated on 1/2 acre parcel. Too good to miss. \$430,000. #2702272

Ann Arbor 1611 Morton. Stunning Burns Park home with 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, new kitchen and baths, updated throughout. Screen porch, 2-car garage. Wonderful, lush backyard. \$615,000. #2702264

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NEW LISTING – BARTON HILLS AREA – New construction just minutes from downtown Ann Arbor and U of M. This 5-bedroom, 3½-bath home on a peaceful 1.5 acre parcel features wonderful oversized rooms, ample hardwood floors, custom kitchen with professional grade appliances, luxury master suite. \$1,100,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – BROOKVIEW HIGHLANDS – Incredible 6-bedroom, 5½-bath custom-built home in one of Saline's most desired neighborhoods. The highlights include a private lot with extensive landscaping, gorgeous cherry kitchen with granite counters, two-story family room, den, luxurious master suite, and finished lower level with full kitchen and multi-use rec space. \$1,095,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – SALINE – 5-bedroom, 4½-bath custom-built home rests on an acre setting just minutes to US-23. Features include heated stone flooring, dream kitchen with maple cabinets, granite, and stainless steel appliances, luxury master suite with incredible bath and two walk-in closets, bonus room, finished basement, and 4-car heated garage. WOW! \$1,095,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – DEXTER SCHOOLS – 5-bedroom, 4½-bath 2006 Showcase of Homes in Mystic Ridge by Charlestown Building Company. Only the best including custom kitchen with granite and professional grade appliances, extensive Brazilian cherry floors, custom trim, two-story great room with stone fireplace, and walkout basement. \$899,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



STONEBRIDGE – This custom-built 4-bedroom, 3½-bath home features showcase-like finishes throughout. Wonderful floor plan includes two-story living room, den with oak paneled walls, cherry kitchen with marvelous eating area, family room with site-built cabinets, and first-floor master suite with marble bath. WOW! \$679,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – OLD WEST SIDE – This 2005 entry Ann Arbor Remodelers Home Tour is just perfect. Large addition and extensive renovation provide all the modern conveniences: cherry kitchen with granite counter tops, family room with custom built-ins, luxury master suite, and finished lower level with bar. WOW! \$659,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NE ANN ARBOR – Striking 4-bedroom, 3½-bath custom-built, builder's home on a peaceful acre lot. This 3-year-old home has all the bells and whistles. Inviting brick and stone interior, two-story great room with vaulted ceiling, custom kitchen with granite and professional grade appliances, dream master suite, and finished walkout basement. \$629,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



MATTHAI FARM – Custom-built ranch on a peaceful acre lot is a nature lover's paradise. Enjoy private surroundings, and extensive landscaping from one of four decks. The interior is in perfect condition and has an oversized great room with redwood ceiling and natural fireplace, luxurious master suite, and finished walkout basement. \$619,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE – Striking 4-bedroom, 3½-bath builder's model home now available in Legacy Heights. This 2005 Showcase of Homes entry is loaded with custom finishes and features. Cherry kitchen with granite counters and stainless steel appliances, large family room, den with built-ins, oversized master suite, and designer décor throughout. \$529,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE – Stunning 4-bedroom, 4½-bath builder's model home in Huntington Woods. This home is incredible featuring extensive upgrades, professional decorating, and more. Amenities include gorgeous crown moldings, cherry kitchen, granite counters, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement. \$529,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



YORK MEADOWS – This custom-built 4-bedroom, 2½-bath home is just perfect. Incredible setting with oversized yard, extensive landscaping, and large patio. Interior is out of a magazine. Cherry kitchen with granite counter tops, two-story family room with wall of glass to backyard, and luxurious master suite. You will love it. \$499,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – YORK PLACE – This 4-bedroom, 2½-bath home in Saline's most desired subs. Perfect inside and out, includes professional landscaping, huge backyard, gorgeous décor, maple kitchen with granite counters and oversized eating area, open family room with vaulted ceiling, and luxurious master suite with two walk-in closets and dream bath. \$464,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP – Stately, new 4-bedroom, 4-bath colonial on a private 6-acre parcel just minutes to Ann Arbor, St. Joe's, and freeways. This home is loaded with quality features including gourmet kitchen with maple cabinets, ample hardwood floors, family room with vaulted ceiling, and luxury master suite. \$434,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE – This 4-bedroom, 4½-bath Bayberry home in the Arboretum is an incredible value. Many quality features and amenities including cherry kitchen with Corian counters, oversized two-story great room, luxury first-floor master suite, and finished basement with view out windows. \$429,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



LAKE FOREST – This 4-bedroom, 3½-bath former builder's model home is just perfect! Incredible features inside and out including extensive mature landscaping, large deck, and patio. Interior is highlighted by ample hardwood flooring, maple kitchen with granite counters, two-story family room, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement. \$429,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – SALINE – The perfect country oasis? Rock solid 3-bedroom, 3-bath custom-built home features incredible views of nature, stream, spring-fed pond with walkways, extensive landscaping, and patio. Interior features great room with vaulted ceiling and full brick fireplace, first-floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. \$425,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP – Looking for a peaceful country retreat just minutes to I-94? Oversized ranch on almost 4 acres of wooded land. This home, featuring wonderful living areas and many extra multi-use spaces, is perfect for home office, hobbies, etc. Extensive updates including granite kitchen, luxury master bath, and wine room. \$399,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – YORK PLACE – This 4-bedroom, 2½-bath custom-built home on a quiet cul-de-sac lot is loaded with custom features and amenities. Extensive landscaping, paver sidewalk, and oversized deck with built-in hot tub highlight the exterior. Cherry kitchen with granite counters and stainless steel appliances, two-story great room, and luxury master suite. \$399,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



MANCHESTER – Are you looking for the perfect country retreat? This is it. Enjoy the rolling vistas from the rock-solid, all-brick ranch on 10 pastoral acres just outside of town. This home has the perfect set-up with two pole barns, fenced horse pasture, and in-ground pool. Interior is sharp with great room and finished walkout basement. \$399,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – BRIARHILL – Gorgeous home on a peaceful wooded lot with extreme privacy. Wonderful features and updates throughout including granite kitchen counter tops, gorgeous family room with vaulted ceiling, study loft with oak built-ins, large master suite, and finished basement with oak wet bar and great flex-use rec space. \$389,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



LAKE FOREST HIGHLANDS – This custom-built 3-bedroom, 2½-bath home rests on one of the best lots to be found. Enjoy the quiet cul-de-sac location with expansive backyard, deck, patio, and extensive landscaping. Interior is move-in perfect featuring great room with vaulted ceiling, oversized kitchen with hardwood floor, luxury master suite, and finished basement. \$349,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – TRAVIS POINTE – This completely remodeled 2-bedroom, 2½-bath condo is just perfect with a wonderful contemporary flair. Almost everything is updated including custom kitchen with granite, white cabinets, and professional grade appliances, marble entry, hardwood floors, and gorgeous master suite. \$339,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – HICKORY POINTE – This custom-built 4-bedroom, 3½-bath colonial is loaded with quality features and amenities. Features include ample hardwood floors, spacious formal dining room and living room, large kitchen with white cabinets and island, spacious family room, luxury master suite, and finished basement with view out windows. \$329,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – PITTSFIELD TWP – This custom-built 4-bedroom, 3-bath ranch rests on a peaceful acre setting just minutes to everything. Incredible list of amenities includes great room with vaulted ceiling and hardwood floor, maple kitchen with granite, luxury master suite, and finished lower level with multi-use rec room, wet bar, and office. You will be impressed. \$329,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



KING SCHOOL AREA - This 5-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath custom-built home represents the most classic example of true contemporary architecture and décor available in Ann Arbor. Gorgeous acre property in the heart of one of the area's most desired locations. The proportions are massive throughout with top-quality finishes everywhere. \$1,295,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - ANN ARBOR HILLS - Dramatic 4-bedroom, 3-bath, and 2 half-bath new construction. Complete and ready to go, this home is loaded with only the best in finish and workmanship. Highlights include cherry kitchen with granite and top-end appliances, two-story great room, luxury first-floor master suite, and den with cherry built-ins. \$1,200,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - ANN ARBOR HILLS - Breathtaking new construction in the heart of one of Ann Arbor's most desired neighborhoods. This home is incredible, loaded with quality features and amenities. Custom kitchen with vaulted ceiling, fireplace, granite, and professional grade appliances, two-story great room, luxury first-floor master suite and more. \$1,150,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - ANN ARBOR HILLS - Stunning 4-bedroom, 5-bath home under construction walking distance to U of M Campus and Hospitals. Dramatic Arts and Crafts inspired home. Oversized dream kitchen with cherry cabinets, granite, and professional grade appliances, family room with vaulted ceiling, dream master suite, and 3-floor elevator. \$1,140,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - STONEBRIDGE - This incredible custom-built waterfront home overlooking the golf course is just stunning. Every detail is covered featuring two-story family room with wall of glass to water, gourmet kitchen with Sub Zero frig, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement with great multi-use space. This home is gorgeous!! \$824,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



POLO FIELDS - This is one of the finest homes you will ever see! Top-quality, custom-built home on a quiet cul-de-sac with panoramic golf course views. Interior is special featuring ample hardwood floors, cherry kitchen with granite counters, oversized first-floor master suite, two-story living room, and finished walkout basement with theater. Wow! \$799,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



BURNS PARK - Complete renovation inside and out awaits you at this striking 5-bedroom, 3-bath home. Extensive upgrades throughout including custom maple kitchen with granite counters, slate floors in many rooms, luxury master suite with vaulted ceiling and modern bath, and great flex-use third floor. \$799,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - STONEBRIDGE - This custom-built 4-bedroom, 4 1/2-bath home on a quiet cul-de-sac lot overlooking the golf course is one of the finest homes you will find. Exceptional in every way this well loved home features a two-story great room, custom cherry kitchen with granite counters, luxury master suite with dream bath and closet, and finished lower level with wet bar. \$729,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NICHOLS ARBORETUM AREA - This 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath colonial is just a short walk to the Arb and U-M Campus. Extensive renovation makes this home a wonderful find. Features include master bedroom addition, remodeled maple kitchen, oversized family room, ample hardwood floor, and gorgeous private lot. \$619,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - SALINE - Incredible 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath custom-built on 5 1/2 gorgeous acres, 2+ wooded. This stately home features a gorgeous new kitchen with cherry cabinets and granite counters, huge family room with fireplace, gleaming hardwood floors, and luxurious master suite. Heated 3-car garage, extensive landscaping, and more. \$599,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



STONEBRIDGE - Enjoy near perfection in this custom-built 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath home on a quiet cul-de-sac in one of the area's most desired subs. Incredible lot borders trees and a stream with oversized patio and extensive landscaping. Interior is gorgeous featuring large great room with vaulted ceiling, gourmet kitchen, spacious first-floor master suite, and finished basement. \$579,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - YORK PLACE - This custom-built 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath colonial on a peaceful acre lot backing to trees features 8-car garage space. All the bells and whistles are here including 2-story family room, maple kitchen with granite counters, ample hardwood floor, den, and dream master suite with oversized bath and closet. You will love it! \$559,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - WEBSTER TOWNSHIP - This stunning 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath home on a quiet country cul-de-sac is just perfect. Gorgeous lot with extensive landscaping and oversized patio. Interior is highlighted by the two-story family room, cherry kitchen, back stair, and luxurious master suite. Dexter Schools. \$439,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - PITTSFIELD TWP - This 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath custom-built home is truly a find. One acre country sub setting convenient to everything. The interior of this home is spectacular, highlighted by a gorgeous cherry kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, great room with vaulted ceiling, luxury first-floor master suite, and bonus room. Milan Schools. \$439,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - SALINE - Are you looking for a GORGEOUS wooded setting just minutes to Ann Arbor and I-94? This is it!! Enjoy the complete seclusion and privacy of this 2.1 acre wooded setting. The 3-bedroom, 2-bath home features great room with vaulted ceiling, spacious oak kitchen, study loft, and private master suite. \$439,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - LOHR LAKE VILLAGE - This very special 5-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath home rests on a gorgeous lot overlooking the ponds. Enjoy wonderful views from the oversized deck. Interior is perfect featuring two-story great room with custom fireplace, large kitchen, den, luxurious first-floor master suite, and finished lower level. Saline Schools. \$438,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SANDPIPER COVE - This custom-built 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath colonial rests on a peaceful acre lot in the highly desired Saline community. Enjoy the many luxurious features including oversized maple kitchen with ample cabinets, family room with built-ins, and large master suite with dream bath. You will love it! \$424,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - ANN ARBOR - Enjoy stunning Huron River views from this completely remodeled 3-bedroom, 2-bath cape cod. Perched high above the river this home features a gorgeous living room, remodeled kitchen, ample hardwood floor, and luxury master suite with wall of glass to the Huron River. You will love it! \$407,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



STONEBRIDGE - This well appointed 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath home in one of Ann Arbor's most desired subs features wonderful updates and is in perfect, move-in condition. Features include ample hardwood floors, great room with fireplace and beautiful windows, kitchen with granite counters, luxury first-floor master suite, and significant, mature landscaping. \$399,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - PLEASANT LAKE - This 3-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath home rests on one of the most beautiful lakefront settings in Washtenaw County. Enjoy panoramic views of the lake from this bluff-top setting. Home features many updates including maple kitchen with Corian counters, living room with stone fireplace, and large decks. \$399,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - EAST HORIZONS - Perfectly maintained 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath home on a quiet acre lot in one of the area's most desired subs. Incredible value inside and out with extensive landscaping, brick paver patio, neutral décor, family room with fireplace, den, very nice master suite, and finished basement with great multi-use rec space has daylight windows. \$388,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



STONEBRIDGE - Super sharp 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath colonial on a private lot in one of the area's best neighborhoods. This home is perfect featuring large kitchen with hardwood floor and 9-ft. ceilings, open family room, spacious master suite, and in move-in condition. You will love this home! \$379,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



TECUMSEH - Completely remodeled 4-bedroom, 3-bath 1800s farmhouse on 15 pastoral acres 10 minutes south of downtown Saline. Featuring heated barn perfect for car storage. Interior has best of old and new with cherry kitchen and Corian counters, hardwood floors, oversized moldings, family room, and luxury master suite. \$379,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - BRIDGEFIELD ESTATES - This is one of the finest homes you will find. Custom-built home on a quiet cul-de-sac backing to trees. Interior is upgraded in everyway including gourmet kitchen with maple cabinets, granite counters, and stainless steel professional grade appliances, two-story great room, and luxury master suite with sitting room. \$379,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



ANN ARBOR HILLS - This 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath ranch on a spacious lot is a prime home for extensive remodeling or tear down. Property features rolling land and mature trees. Home is a sprawling 50's ranch with three fireplaces, guest suite, and covered patio area. \$322,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - SILO RIDGE - Enjoy quiet, quality living from this perfectly maintained 3-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath colonial on a peaceful one acre cul-de-sac lot. This home is wonderful and features extensive landscaping, large deck, open family room with bookcases, spacious formal rooms, first-floor study, and nice master suite. Saline Schools. \$299,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - SALINE - This 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath, 2-story with over 2,850 sq. ft. represents one of the best buys on the market. Beautiful inside and out with extensive landscaping, large deck, and view of protected farmland. Interior features two-story foyer, den, open kitchen and family room, master suite with walk-in closet, and oversized bedrooms. \$299,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



MILAN - This is one of the nicest homes you will find. Completely remodeled 4-bedroom, 2-bath ranch on a spacious acre lot in York Township. The list is long: cherry kitchen, remodeled baths, perfect décor, finished walkout basement, huge deck and patio. WOW! \$299,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.

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SAGINAW HILLS – Drastically reduced for quick sale, an incredible opportunity and value to the buyer. Striking 3-bedroom, 2½-bath home on a gorgeous 2.8 acre lot in one of Ann Arbor's most desired subs. Oversized lot just minutes to downtown Ann Arbor. Unique design perfect for those with a little flair. \$289,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – MAPLE CREEK – This very sharp 3-bedroom, 2½-bath colonial in Pittsfield Twp. sits on a gorgeous almost acre lot. Interior spaces feature cherry kitchen with oak hardwood floor, open family room with fireplace and vaulted ceiling, and nice master suite with walk-in closet. \$279,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



GRASS LAKE – This brand new 3-bedroom, 3-bath ranch on a peaceful 2-acre parcel is just wonderful. This open floor plan features a large kitchen with maple cabinets and hardwood floors, large great room, luxury master suite, and finished basement. \$239,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – LINCOLN SCHOOLS – This 4-bedroom, 2½-bath, two-story is one of the only true custom-built homes in Greene Farms. Enjoy wonderful features and amenities throughout including extensive landscaping, oversized deck, tasteful décor, kitchen with maple cabinets, and luxury master suite with oversized walk-in closet. Stunning! \$229,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – BRENTWOOD SQUARE – This dramatic 2-bedroom, 2-bath end unit condo is within walking distance to shopping, Starbucks, and Gallop Park. Interior features vaulted ceilings, granite kitchen, wonderful décor, hardwood floors, main level den, and upgraded bath. \$214,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – GRASS LAKE – This 3-bedroom, 1½-bath 1800s farmhouse rests on a wooded acre just minutes to I-94 and Grass Lake. Home does need some work but has some updates completed and tons of charm and potential. Large living room with hardwood floors, stone fireplace, and original trim, remodeled kitchen, and 2½-car garage. \$199,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – WILDWOOD – Super sharp 4-bedroom, 2½-bath home on a quiet lot overlooking a gorgeous pond and common area. You will love this setting! Interior is move-in ready and features living room with vaulted ceiling, formal dining, kitchen with oak floor, spacious family room, and walkout basement. \$299,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – HOMETOWNE VILLAGE – This custom-built 3-bedroom, 2½-bath home in one of Ann Arbor's most desired subs is in perfect move-in condition. Gorgeous setting, very pretty pond view. Interior is dramatic with 10-ft. first-floor ceilings, large kitchen, great room with built-in entertainment center, luxury master suite, and walkout basement. \$279,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE – Perfect 4-unit income property in downtown Saline. Are you looking to get into rental property? This is the perfect property. Three one-bedroom apartments and an efficiency. All separate utilities, lots of updates, and stable rental history. \$259,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – ANN ARBOR – This rock-solid 3-bedroom, 2-bath all-brick ranch on a peaceful oversized lot just minutes to US-23 and Arborland. Wonderful condition with spacious living room, nice kitchen, formal dining, partially finished basement, and heated garage. Bonus 24' x 36' outbuilding is perfect for car enthusiasts, boat, or RV storage. \$234,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – DEXTER – Great 3-bedroom, 2-bath, two-story on a peaceful 1.4 acre lot adjacent to Peach Mountain and Stinchfield Woods. Enjoy private walking access to one of the areas most beautiful pieces of land. Home has nice features including oversized 2½-car garage, screened porch, and partially finished basement. \$225,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.

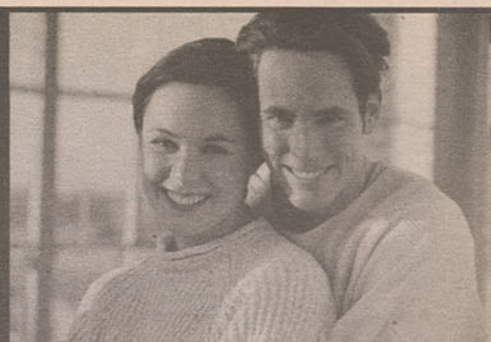


NEW LISTING – ANN ARBOR – This is the perfect 3-bedroom starter ranch on the west side of town. Everything is updated in this super sharp home. Extensive hardwood floors, remodeled master suite and kitchen, finished basement, 2½-car garage, and fenced backyard. \$209,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



YPSILANTI – Super sharp 3-bedroom, 1½-bath brick colonial, walking distance to EMU. This home is as cute as it gets and in move-in condition. Features include spacious living room with hardwood floors, coved ceiling and fireplace, formal dining room, large sun room, spacious bedrooms, and private backyard. \$174,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.

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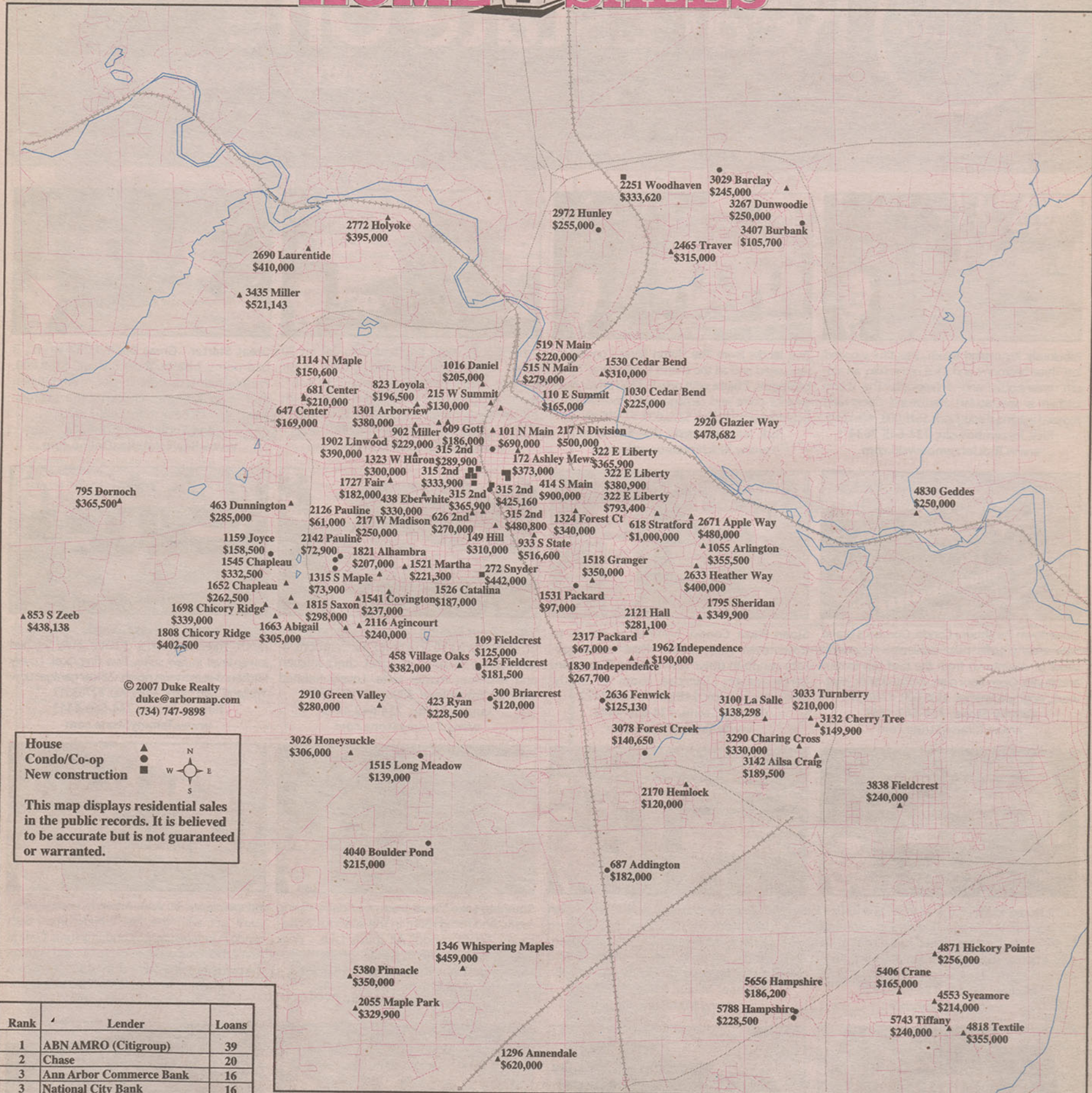
Prime Location In NE Ann Arbor. Elegant condo has remodeled kitchen with cherry cabinets, living room with fireplace, formal dining room, 3 bedrooms 2 1/2-baths, full basement. Large deck. \$2,500 credit at closing. \$229,900. #2701900
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FEBRUARY 2007

HOME SALES



Lenders are making plenty of loans in Ann Arbor. Interest rates for fixed-rate mortgages are still low, and refinancing is especially attractive to home owners eager to trade in adjustable-rate mortgages. This dynamic helps explain why six mortgages were recorded for every home sale in January—and why lenders' fee income has not fallen in lockstep with home sales.

The chart at left ranks the top twenty lenders by the number of mortgages they recorded in January in the city of Ann

Arbor, including home equity loans. The figures include a handful of commercial loans, but not enough to make a significant difference in the rankings.

ABN AMRO ranks as the top lender in Ann Arbor, a fact that is unlikely to change now that Citigroup has added the lender's mortgage group to its portfolio. Citigroup was ranked the second most profitable corporation on the Fortune 500 list in 2006.

New Century—off the chart—is one

of the players at the center of the subprime mortgage fiasco currently rocking Wall Street and is nowhere to be seen. On the other hand, Comerica once did plenty of business in Ann Arbor, yet it fell off the chart as well. Comerica lost its local focus many years ago when it acquired a Texas bank—a change that culminated in its recent announcement that it will move its corporate headquarters to Dallas.

—Kevin Duke



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107one FM Radio.....58	EMU Elder Quest.....101	Perrigo Company.....34
Abbott's Landscape Nursery.....65	The Earle restaurants.....45	Planned Parenthood.....69
Ace Barnes Hardware.....20	Early Learning Center.....87	Polo Fields Golf and Country Club.....120
Acme Mercantile.....73	Elements Ann Arbor.....43	Polo Fields Sunday brunch.....57
Adorn Me Women's Accessory.....70	Elizabeth J. Interiors.....41	Purple Rose Theatre.....68
Boutique.....70	Emerson School.....78, 84	
Afternoon Delight Cafe.....44	Emerson School Summer Program.....82	Diane Ratkovich, Realtor—Prudential
Allen Creek Preschool.....82	English Gardens—nursery, garden center, florist.....24	Snyder & Company, Realtors.....31
Allstate Billiards & Patio Furniture.....13		Raymond James & Associates.....22
American Red Cross.....65	First Baptist Church.....60	Real Estate One.....125
Ann Arbor Academy.....85	Fitness Together.....42	Real Estate One—
Ann Arbor Antiques Market.....70	Flying Sheep Yarns.....38	Matt Dejanovich.....122, 123, 124
Ann Arbor Area Chamber of Commerce.....64	Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.....61	Recycle Ann Arbor.....91, 92, 100
Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation.....68	Forest Hill Cemetery.....94	Red Shoes LLC—home furnishings, gifts, & children's things.....7
Ann Arbor Artisan Market.....68	Linda E. Forster, Realtor—Prudential	Reflecting Nature—landscape design & installation.....18
Ann Arbor Civic Theatre.....61	Snyder & Company, Realtors.....121	Shyroze N. Rehemtulla, D.M.D.—family dentistry.....106
Ann Arbor Cyclery.....56	Fourth Ave Sleep Shop.....131	Charles Reinhart Company Realtors.....118
Ann Arbor Dermatology.....99	The Frame Factory.....72	Kimberly Rice, D.D.S.—family dentistry.....102
Ann Arbor District Library.....62	Fresh Seasons Market.....57	Rocks & Robots Day Camp.....79
Ann Arbor Farmers' Market.....70	Friends of Chamber Music at Pease.....74	Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor.....81
Ann Arbor Hills Child Development Center.....81		Running Fit.....89
Ann Arbor Imports—BMW of Ann Arbor.....8	The Gallery—The Concannon Company.....127	
Ann Arbor Observer.....129, 130	Georgetown Gifts.....73	St. Paul Lutheran School.....83
Ann Arbor Public Schools.....10	Glenda Gerbstadt, Realtor—Coldwell Banker Schweitzer Real Estate.....121	Jeri Sawall, Realtor—Charles Reinhart Company Realtors.....38
Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra.....64	The Gilbert Residence.....95	Dean R. Schueller, M.D.—spine surgeon.....105
Ann Arbor Women's City Club.....71	Go Like the Wind! Montessori School.....81, 83	Scrapbook Haven.....71
Arbor Hills Hair & Body Salon.....39	Godaiko Classic Japanese Cuisine.....55	Second Heaven Salon & Massage Therapy.....71
Arbor Springs Water.....106	Gold Bond Cleaners.....16	Select Ride.....28
Arbor Vacuum.....69, 99	Sherry Grammatico, Realtor—Charles Reinhart Company Realtors.....44	Seva restaurant.....45
arborlist.com.....107, 109, 115	Great Harvest Bread Co.....57	Silver Maples Senior Retirement Community.....6
arborweb.com.....130	Great Lakes Cycling & Fitness.....53	Pam Sjo, Realtor—Charles Reinhart Company Realtors.....11
Architectural Artifacts.....52	Grizzly Peak Brewing Company.....48	State Street Storage.....65
Area Rug Cleaning Company.....76		Stidwell's—decorative antiques.....54
Arthur Murray Dance Studio.....58	Hagopian Cleaning Services, the Original.....18	Summers-Knoll School.....86
Arts in Motion Dance Studio.....75	Hear USA—hearing aids.....95	Summers-Knoll Summer Camp.....80
Aut Bar & Common Language Bookstore.....75	Heart & Soul—Ecological Landscaping & Natural Building.....34	Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea.....54
	Heavenly Metal handcrafted designs.....77	
BRG Custom Homes.....120	Hebrew Day School.....84	Terraforma—home remodeling & construction.....116
Balmoral Park Condominiums.....121	John Hollowell & Associates—landscaping.....22	Three Chairs Company—furniture & accessories.....53
The Banks of Saline—condominiums.....12	Big George's Home Appliance Mart.....20	Todd's Services—residential landscaping & irrigation.....5, 30
Batteries Plus.....77	Home Builders Association of Washtenaw County.....21	Touchstone Cohousing.....39
Bello Vito Marketplace.....52	Housing Bureau for Seniors.....18	Treasure Mart.....50
Best Block Company.....40	Huron River Watershed Council.....85	Treasured Earth LLC—Landscape Design & Build.....21
Betty Brigade—errand, organizing, & home help.....77	Huron Scuba.....56	Tribe Salon.....41
Big George's Home Appliance Mart.....20	Huron Valley Ambulance.....98	Trimble Associates, Ltd.—Interior Design.....14
Birkenstock, Fourth Ave.....131	Huron Valley Ambulance—Life Link.....97	Trusted Loving Care—home care for seniors.....102
Bivouac.....16	IHA Network.....4	Tuptim Thai Cuisine.....46
Books by Chance—books sold on consignment.....77	i9 Sports—basketball & flag football.....56	Turner's Nursery & Landscape Contractors.....53
Martin Bouma Group.....119	Instant Furniture.....73	Two Wheel Tango—bicycles.....50
Brass & Iron Beds of Plymouth.....75	It's Just Lunch! dating service.....109	
Elizabeth Brien, Realtor—Charles Reinhart Company Realtors.....27, 121		UBuildit.....26
Brookhaven Manor Retirement Community.....104	Japanese Martial Arts Center.....60	U-M Camp CAEN.....82
	Fran Jones, Realtor—Charles Reinhart Company Realtors.....28	U-M Health System.....93
Cabinet Clinic.....35	Jump City—inflatable party zone.....87	U-M Kellogg Eye Center.....96
Carlyle Bar & Grill.....46		U-M KidSport.....87
Center for Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery.....100	Kai Garden Chinese restaurant.....7	U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens—Earth Day.....69
Chelsea Lumber Company/Bridgewater Lumber Company.....22	Kensington Court Hotel.....3	U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens—Plant Sale.....72
Chelsea Medicine & Laser Center.....103	Kenville Studio of Dance & Creativity.....85	U-M Museum of Art.....63
Chelsea Retirement Community.....99	Kilwin's Chocolates.....45	U-M School of Art & Design.....IBC
China Gate Restaurant.....131	Kingsley Lane Lofts—Charles Reinhart Company Realtors.....1	U-M School of Music, Theatre, & Dance.....74
Christian Montessori School of Ann Arbor.....86	Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor.....7	U-M Tennis Summer Camp.....74
City of Ann Arbor—compost.....32	Knight-Landscaping, Inc.....12	U-M Volleyball Camps.....78
City of Ann Arbor—Earth Day festival.....38	Korzon Landscapes.....55	United Bank & Trust—Washtenaw.....8, 127
City of Ann Arbor—news.....INSERT		University Musical Society.....66-67
City of Ann Arbor—sidewalk repair.....90	La Belle Maison—Direct Importers of European Antiques.....51	University Musical Society Family Days.....78
City of Ann Arbor—water.....91	Land Architects—landscape design & construction.....26	Urban Foresters.....65
Classic Cup Cafe.....49	Law Day, USA.....101	
Clonlara School.....86	Leelanau Vacation Rentals.....28	Vespa of Ann Arbor.....39
Rhonda Cloutier, Realtor—Coldwell Banker.....40	John Leidy Shop.....50	Vicki's Wash & Wear Haircuts.....75
Coach Me Fit.....36	Lewis Jewelers.....55	Vie: Fitness & Spa.....15
Collaborative Law—divorce professionals.....35	Liberty Lofts—Morningside Group.....17	Village Cooperative Homes.....124
Come Dancing School of Ballroom.....74	Veronique Liem—Law Offices.....35	Village Pharmacy II.....93
Dancing.....54	Life Force Wellness Center.....104	The Village at Saint Joseph Mercy Hospital.....94
The Common Grill.....54	Lurie Terrace.....98	Vinology Wine Bar & Restaurant.....49
Community Education & Recreation—Ann Arbor Public Schools.....32	MOSA Audiology.....105	
Concordia University—Arts.....60	Main Dish Kitchen.....49	David Wallner, Realtor—Edward Surovell Realtors.....7
Howard Cooper, auto sales.....14	Mast Shoes.....92	Washtenaw General Dentistry.....96
Crosswell Opera House.....58	McLennan Landscape & Nursery.....38	Washtenaw Woodwrights.....25
Custom Design/Build.....31	Mediterrano Restaurant & LaPiazza.....46	West Towne Condominiums—The Concannon Company.....127
	Melange Bistro & Wine Bar.....44	Wheels in Motion—bicycles.....58
Dale Carnegie Courses.....76	Merkel Furniture and Carpet One.....BC	WideWorld Sports Center—Kids' Kamp & soccer camp.....88
Dana & Co.—A Baking Company.....51	Metzger's German Restaurant.....49	Woodchase Apartments.....72
The Dancer's Boutique.....89	Michigan Head Pain & Neurological Institute.....103	Woodland Mews.....128
Daycroft Montessori School.....87	Michigan Orthopedic Clinic.....105	Wordhouse Wealth Coaching.....107
Dayjams—National Music Workshop.....79	Michigan Theater.....84	Wreck Department.....98
Matt Dejanovich, Realtor—Real Estate One.....122, 123, 124	Michigan Vein Center.....97	
Delux Drapery.....32	M. Brady Mikusko, M.A., M.S.W.—life coach.....104	Maria Zaborniak, paramedical esthetician—skin care.....104
Dempsey Inc.—insurance.....28	MisSaigon Vietnamese & Far East Cuisine.....48	Zeeb Golf Range.....56
Dental Faculty Associates, U-M.....101	Mobile Mower Repair, Inc.....18	Zeidan Bakery—Mediterranean Cuisine & Cafe.....57
Dessange Salon & Spa.....25	C. S. Mott Children Hospital.....2	Zingerman's Community of Businesses.....47
Dexter Cabinet Works.....11		
Dexter's Pub.....44	National City Mortgage.....124	
Discovery Center.....83	National Music Workshop—Dayjams.....79	
DogmaCatmantoo—gifts & supplies for pets.....73	Nicki Noel, Realtor—Charles Reinhart Company Realtors.....32	
Donaldson & Guenther—cosmetic, implant, & restorative dentistry.....94	Orion Automotive.....106	
Alden B. Dow Home & Studio.....76	Perkins Construction Co.....20	
Downtown Home & Garden.....IFC		
DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen—remodelers.....27		

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Ann Arbor Dermatology.....99	La Belle Maison.....51
Batteries Plus.....77	Mobile Mower.....18
Dancer's Boutique.....89	Second Heaven Salon.....71
Dessange.....25	Village Pharmacy II.....93
Hear USA.....95	Zeidan Bakery.....57



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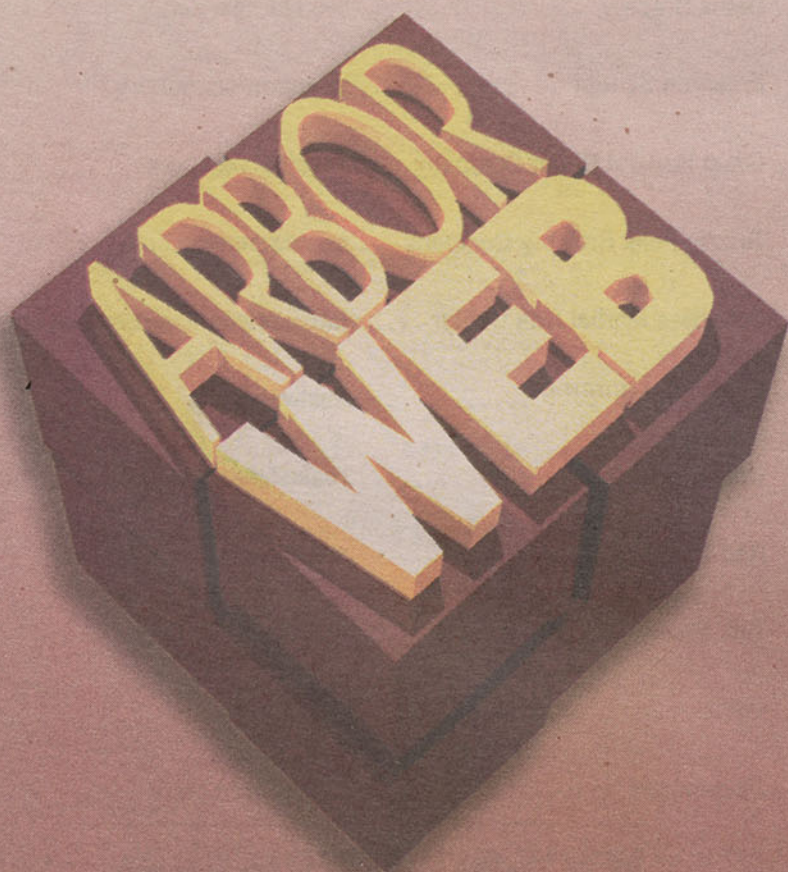
Ann Arbor Academy.....annarboracademy.org
Arborweb Classifieds.....arborweb.com/classindex.html
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Back Page

i spy

by Sally Bjork

This "window" decorates a onetime bakery.

To enter this month's I Spy contest, use the clue above and photo at right to find the spot shown, and send your entry to the address at the bottom of the page. The winner will receive a copy of *A History of Ann Arbor*, by Jonathan L. Marwil.

"[March's] I Spy is the building at 315-323 East Washington Street formerly occupied by the Michigan Bell Telephone Company," wrote I Spy all-star Tom Jameson. The 1925 Beaux Arts building was designed by William Kapp



of the Detroit firm Smith, Hinchman & Grylls—the same architect who, a decade later, designed the U-M's Rackham Building a few blocks east.



Rob Benninger, who won our random drawing, identified the unexpectedly lovely brick and terra-cotta structure as "the Washington Street side of the telephone exchange"—recognizing both its role as the place where local phone lines are connected and its sad pairing with a newer, Brutalist-style building facing Huron. Long overlooked, the 1925 building has grown even more anonymous as ownership has transferred through a series of corporate consolidations from Michigan Bell to SBC-Ameritech to AT&T. Today, even the phone number posted on the side of the building no longer works.

fake ad

by Jay Forstner

We received 120 entries correctly identifying the March Fake Ad for Mary's Contrary Food and Drug (p. 106). Not everyone spotted the name of the Observer's website, *arborweb*, your clue to the fakeness of the ad; it was well hidden in telephone-pad alphanumeric code (as RBO-RWEB, or 726-7932). Ron Burek of Northville won our random drawing. He's taking his gift certificate to Tuptim Thai Cuisine.

Many entrants commented on the ad's promise that silica desiccants make a great snack, and it's worth repeating the tired proviso that one should not try this at home, no matter how tempting those little packets might be as they fall out

of shoeboxes on the way to the recycling bin.

Congratulations go to Ypsilanti's Judy Sorensen, who managed the difficult task of working the word *cancer* into a funny poem. "Mary, Mary, quite contrary, how does your garden grow?" she wrote. "With injectable foods to alter your moods, and a touch of cancer to go."

Kathy Hillig of Ann Arbor offered her professional opinion: "As a chemist, I thought it was hilarious, imagining someone trying to eat that crunchy silica desiccant."

To enter, identify the April Fake Ad by name and page number—watching out for *arborweb*—and let us know at the address below. The winner of our random drawing will receive a \$25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue.

Mary's Contrary Food and Drug
Proudly Presenting Products That Go against the Grain

THIS MONTH'S SPECIALS:
Inorganic Apples
Genetically altered for lasting freshness
2 for 72¢
BGH
Try it in milk!
\$6.79 a pound
Silica Desiccants
Perfect for snacking
32¢ each

Mary's Contrary Food and Drug
2634 S. University - Ann Arbor, MI

Send separate entries to Fake Ad or I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104. Fax: (734) 769-4950. Email: backpage@aaobserver.com. You must include your name, address, and telephone number! All correct entries received in the Observer office by noon on Tuesday, April 10, will be eligible for the April drawings.

Mom and Pop Alive and Well in Ann Arbor

It's nice to know there's a place where people understand that shopping is like watering plants: we grow the kinds of businesses we want by carefully choosing where to spend our money.

As a small business committed to maintaining the high standards of our community, we are proud to be thriving. We know this is made possible by you, our conscientious customers.

Thank you. We'll try to keep earning your trust.



FOURTH AVE SLEEP SHOP FOURTH AVE BIRKENSTOCK

209 North Fourth Avenue Ann Arbor 48104 (734) 663-1644
2 Blocks North of Huron, Open 10 to 6 Monday thru Saturday

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CHINESE FOOD

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(Corner of Church & S. University)



2006, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001, 2000
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Events at a Glance

A capsule guide to selected major events in April. See p. 59 for a complete listing of this month's Gallery, Band, and Events reviews. Daily events listings begin on p. 59.

Pop, Rock, Blues, & Jazz

- Jakson Spires Scholarship Fund-Raiser with Thunderfoot & other bands, Apr. 1
- Susan Werner (singer-songwriter), Apr. 1
- Riders in the Sky (cowboy), Apr. 2
- The Alternate Routes (rock), Apr. 3
- U-M Jazz Showcase, Apr. 5
- Jedi Mind Tricks (hip-hop), Apr. 5
- Ullmann/Swell 4 (jazz), Apr. 6
- Daisy May & Seth Bernard (singer-songwriters), Apr. 6
- Bob Dorough Quintet (jazz), Apr. 6
- Ben Folds (singer-songwriter), Apr. 7
- Gandalf Murphy & the Slambovian Circus of Dreams (folk-rock), Apr. 7
- Kol Hakavod (a cappella), Apr. 7
- Wilbert De Joode (jazz), Apr. 8
- David Francey (singer-songwriter), Apr. 9
- Mason Jennings (folk-rock troubadour), Apr. 10
- Rodney Crowell (country-rock singer-songwriter), Apr. 11
- Martin Sexton (singer-songwriter), Apr. 11
- Cheryl Wheeler (singer-songwriter), Apr. 12
- Dave Liebman (jazz), Apr. 12
- Xiu Xiu (experimental rock), Apr. 13
- Mr. B's Blues & Boogie Piano Celebration with Ken Saydak, Sonny Leyland, & Bob Seeley, Apr. 13
- Tim Grimm (singer-songwriter), Apr. 13
- Josh Kelley (pop-rock singer-songwriter), Apr. 14
- Lucinda Williams (singer-songwriter), Apr. 15
- Maia Sharp (country-pop singer-songwriter), Apr. 16
- The Yellow Room Gang (singer-songwriters), Apr. 17
- Deanna Bogart Band (boogie & blues), Apr. 17
- Lee Roy Parnell (country), Apr. 18
- Tom Russell and Eliza Gilkyson (singer-songwriters), Apr. 19
- Steppin' in It (country string band) with Saline Fiddlers ReStrung, Apr. 20
- Four Bitchin' Babes (singer-songwriters), Apr. 20
- RFD Boys (bluegrass), Apr. 21
- E.S.T. (jazz), Apr. 22
- Souls of Mischief (hip-hop), Apr. 22
- Dana Cooper (singer-songwriter), Apr. 24
- Vienna Teng (singer-songwriter), Apr. 25
- Brother Ali (hip-hop), Apr. 25
- Patty Griffin (singer-songwriter), Apr. 26
- Bill Kirchen (dieselbilly), Apr. 26
- Kat Eggleston (folk singer-songwriter), Apr. 27
- Paul Thorn (singer-songwriter), Apr. 27
- Slum Village (hip-hop), Apr. 27
- Antibalas Afrobeat Orchestra, Apr. 28
- Krudas Cubensi (Cuban hip-hop), Apr. 28
- Farmfest Benefit with Ann Rabson (blues) & others, Apr. 29
- Noah Ginsburg and Friends (jazz), Apr. 29
- Loreena McKennitt (singer-songwriter), Apr. 29
- Jonatha Brooke (pop-folk singer-songwriter), Apr. 30

Ramayana



Combining shadow puppetry, dance, and gamelan music, a U-M production of a tale from the Hindu epic the *Ramayana* appears at Hill Auditorium April 8.

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- *Blaubart, Hoffnung der Frauen* (U-M Residential College Deutsches Theater), Apr. 1
- *The Grand Duke* (U-M Gilbert & Sullivan Society), Apr. 1
- *Playing for Time* (U-M Theater Department), Apr. 1 & 5-8
- *Candida* (Performance Network), Apr. 1, 5-8, & 12-15
- *A View from the Bridge* (U-M Opera Theater Department), Apr. 1 & 3
- *Will Dance for Food* (U-M Dance Department B.F.A. Thesis Concert), Apr. 5-7
- *When the Lights Come On* (Purple Rose Theater Company), Apr. 5-8, 11-15, 18-22, & 25-29
- *The Charlotte Salomon Project* (Polybe + Seats), Apr. 6 & 7
- *Venus* (U-M Rude Mechanicals), Apr. 6 & 7
- *In the Heart of America* (Blackbird Travis Productions), Apr. 6, 7, 13-15, & 20-22
- *Sita Ablaze: The Ramayana Story* (U-M Gamelan Ensemble), Apr. 8
- *Tommy* (U-M Musical Theater Department), Apr. 12-15
- *The Cripple of Inishmaan* (U-M Basement Arts), Apr. 12-14
- *Laugh, Love, Live . . . Anyway* (Chelsea Area Players), Apr. 13 & 14
- *Iphigenia and Other Daughters and The Cure at Troy* (U-M Residential College), Apr. 13 & 14
- *Chasing a Tale: Ramayana Performances from India and Thailand* (U-M Southeast Asian Studies), Apr. 13 & 14
- *You Know I Can't Hear You When the Water's Running* (Dexter Community Players), Apr. 13, 14, 20, & 21
- *Grease* (Young People's Theater), Apr. 19-22
- *The Fantasticks* (Concordia University), Apr. 19-22
- *La Tragedie de Carmen* (U-M Opera Theater Department), Apr. 19 & 20
- *Cactus Flower* (Ann Arbor Civic Theater), Apr. 19-22
- Trinity Irish Dance Company, Apr. 20
- *The Wizard of Oz* (Pioneer Theater Guild), Apr. 21, 22, & 27-29
- Jazz Dance Theater, Apr. 26
- *West Side Story* (Gabriel Richard High School), Apr. 26-29
- *Amadeus* (Performance Network), Apr. 26-29
- *Check, Please* (Community High School), Apr. 27 & 28
- *Cyrano de Bergerac* (Huron High School), Apr. 27 & 28
- *Dance Michigan: Emerging Choreographers Showcase* (Ann Arbor Civic Ballet), Apr. 28

Classical & Religious Music

- Michigan Pops Orchestra, Apr. 1
- Violinist Alicia Doudna, Apr. 7
- U-M Chopin Project, Apr. 7, 10, & 14
- Soprano Measha Brueggergosman, Apr. 12
- Pianist Christopher Kabala, Apr. 13
- Classical guitarist John Williams & jazz guitarist John Etheridge, Apr. 13
- U-M Percussion Ensemble performance of Steve Reich's *Drumming*, Apr. 14
- U-M Men's Glee Club, Apr. 14
- Baroque guitarist Manuel Minguillon & baroque cellist Nika Zlataric, Apr. 14
- Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, Apr. 14 & 15
- Jerusalem String Quartet, Apr. 15
- Ann Arbor Cantata Singers, Apr. 15
- Percussionist Ubaka Hill, Apr. 15
- Netherlands Bach Society, Apr. 19
- U-M Life Sciences Orchestra, Apr. 20
- Opus 21 new-music ensemble, Apr. 20
- Chaverim B'Shirim chorus, Apr. 22
- Violinist Gloria Kitto Lewis & Friends, Apr. 22
- Third Millennium Chorale, Apr. 22
- Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra, Apr. 29
- Dexter Community Band 25th Anniversary Concert, Apr. 29

Ethnic & Traditional Music

- Los Folkloristas (Mexican), Apr. 22
- Kiyoshi Nagata Ensemble (Japanese), Apr. 28

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- Michigan Flintknappers Knap-In, Apr. 1
- U-M Powwow, Apr. 1
- Main Street Festifools Parade, Apr. 1
- "Dimensions in Light" metaphysical fair, Apr. 15
- Earth Day Festival, Apr. 22
- Cobblestone Farm spring cleaning, Apr. 28
- Classic Bike & Whizzer Club show, Apr. 29

Conferences & Forums

- U-M Prison Creative Arts Project, Apr. 1, 3-5, 10, & 11

Comedy & Performance Art

- Ann Arbor Poetry Slam, Apr. 3
- Comic D. C. Malone, Apr. 5-7
- Comic Steve Hofstetter, Apr. 10
- Comic Ricky Gutierrez, Apr. 12-14
- Comic Jackie Flynn, Apr. 19-21
- Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild Spring Festival, Apr. 20-22
- Comic Norm Stulz, Apr. 26-28

Lectures & Readings

- Poets Linda Gregerson, Susan Hutton, & Khaled Mattawa, Apr. 2
- Poet Patricia Smith, Apr. 3
- Poet Tung Hui-Hu, Apr. 4
- Poet David Leavitt, Apr. 5
- Novelist Jonathan Lethem, Apr. 5
- Novelist Arthur Phillips, Apr. 11
- Golden Apple Award winner Andy Marcovits, Apr. 11
- Fiction writer James Alan McPherson, Apr. 12
- Novelist Sherman Alexie, Apr. 17
- NPR journalist Susan Stamberg, Apr. 18
- *Washington Post* journalist Ceci Connolly, Apr. 19
- Novelist Bruce Olds, Apr. 19
- Memoirist Deborah Rodriguez, Apr. 23
- Yiddish music expert Michael Alpert, Apr. 23
- Civil liberties activist Tom Hayden, Apr. 30

Films

- U-M Smithee Awards for bad films, Apr. 21

Family & Kids' Stuff

- *The Trial of Tom Sawyer* (Young Actors Guild), Apr. 1
- Easter egg hunts, Apr. 1 & 7
- Allen's Creek Preschool Children's Medieval Faire, Apr. 21
- Ann Arbor Family Days events at various venues, Apr. 21 & 22
- People Dancing children's show, Apr. 28

"Only in Ann Arbor" Event of the Month

- Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor talk "Glamour Torte and Pink Perfection Peppermint Cake: Women, Creativity, and Convenience Foods in the 1950s," Apr. 15

A&D

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
school of art & design

april

www.art-design.umich.edu

3.27 - 4.11

Exhibition: Twelfth Annual Exhibition of Art by Michigan Prisoners



Now in its twelfth year, this exhibition includes more than 400 works of art by over 200 artists, as well as an accompanying series of educational events. For more information please contact 734-647-7673

Closing Reception
April 11, 5:30-8:00pm
Duderstadt Center
Gallery
2281 Bonisteel Blvd.

3.27 - 5.06

Exhibition: Beyond Words: A Celebration of Book Arts in 2007



Works of art expressed in book form, featuring the work of A&D Associate Professors Larry Cressman and Stephanie Rowden, as well as Ruth Bardenstein, Kevin Bertram, Jean Buescher Bartlett, Barbara Brown, Daniel Essig, Alvey Jones, Julia Miller, and Pati Scobey. Visit the website: www.wsg-art.com

Artists' Panel Discussion: April 15, 2:00pm

Opening Reception
April 13, 7:00-9:00pm
Washington Street
Gallery
120 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor.

4.01

Event: FestiFools: The First Annual Feast of Fools Parade in Ann Arbor



Including A&D students in collaboration with START (Street Theater Art) Arts at Michigan, Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning and A&D Witt Visiting artists Alex Kahn and Sophia Michaelles of Superior Concept Monsters, agents of the New York City Halloween Parade, who will be working with the students on creating work and performing for the parade.

Parade
April 1, 4:00-6:00pm
Main Street between
Liberty and Washington

4.01 - 4.31

Events/Exhibitions:
A&D 3rd Year Graduate Students



A primary aim of graduate creative research at A&D is to generate cross-disciplinary links with the University and Ann Arbor communities. These connections are demonstrated throughout the month of April, when A&D's third year graduate students present their thesis work at venues throughout the area. For information about these events and exhibitions go to <http://art-design.umich.edu/mfa2007.php>

4.02 - 4.30

Exhibition: The Seduction of Scale



A group exhibition of artists engaging nature in a micro/macro world including A&D Associate Professors Jan-Henrik Andersen, Patricia Olynyk, and Brad Smith; as well as Beverly Fishman and David Mann. For more information email Robin Stephenson at rbs@umich.edu

Life Sciences Library
3rd Floor (Plaza level), Life Sciences
Institute, 210 Washtenaw

4.05

PENNY W. STAMPS
DISTINGUISHED VISITORS SERIES

Presentation: Liz Lerman Dance Exchange
"Dance Meets Genetics"



Liz Lerman, founder and artistic director of the Liz Lerman Dance Exchange, recently completed a four-year collaboration between scientists and choreographers culminating in *Ferocious Beauty: Genome*, a multimedia dance/theater work that explores the human implications of discoveries in genetic science. Lerman will be joined by two dancers who will perform excerpts from *Ferocious Beauty: Genome*. Co-sponsors: Life Sciences Institute and Michigan Center for Theoretical Physics

Presentation
5:10pm
MICHIGAN THEATER
603 E. Liberty

4.06 - 4.27

Exhibition: 86: the School of Art & Design Senior Show

Culminating projects by the School's 86 graduating seniors. For more information go to:
<http://www.art-design.umich.edu/seniorshow.php>



Film Screening: Thursday, April 12 at Michigan Theater 4:00-6:30 pm, 6:30-7:30 pm reception at WORK

Off-Site Exhibition Opening Receptions:
Saturday, April 14 at various locations go to:
<http://www.art-design.umich.edu/seniorshow.php>

Opening Receptions
April 13, 6:00 - 9:00pm
at all three galleries
WORK
306 S. State
Jean Paul Slusser Gallery
2000 Bonisteel Blvd., 1st floor
Closing Receptions
April 28, 2:00-5:00pm
at all three galleries
Warren Robbins Gallery
2000 Bonisteel Blvd., 2nd floor

4.23 - 4.29

Exhibition: Architecture of Objects



Work from the Architecture of Objects Design Studio, a cross-disciplinary course led by A&D Associate Professor Shaun Jackson with students from A&D and the Taubman College of Architecture of Urban Planning. Including furniture, lighting and object design, work from the course has been featured in *Interiors* and *Metropolis* magazines and exhibited at NEOCON in Chicago.

Opening Reception
April 27, 5:00 - 8:30pm
Duderstadt Center
Gallery
2281 Bonisteel Blvd.

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Sign language interpreter provided upon advance request for lectures. University of Michigan, School of Art & Design, Art & Architecture Building, 2000 Bonisteel Blvd., Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2069. Most events are free and open to the public. For more information, telephone 734.763.1265 or email: katewest@umich.edu <http://www.art-design.umich.edu>



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